

## Algeria: All Arabs reject invasion

JEDDAH (AP) — All Arab countries without exception reject the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, according to the foreign minister of Algeria. "Arab governments are not split about the Gulf crisis," Ahmad Ghazali said in an interview published Friday in the Saudi Arabian daily Asharq Al-Awsat. "All these countries have rejected the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and its annexation." Arab governments differ only on how to bring about a solution to the Gulf crisis precipitated by the Iraqi Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, he said. "But there is no difference on the principle." A report to force to end the crisis would result in "a catastrophe for the Arab World," he said. Algeria advocated a settlement on basis of "resolutions of international legitimacy," he said, an apparent reference to the United Nations Security Council. Algeria is among Arab countries including Yemen which do not support the deployment of U.S. and other foreign forces in Saudi Arabia as part of the multinational military buildup confronting Iraq. These countries insist instead that a settlement of the crisis be worked out by Arab states.

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## League starts move to Cairo

TUNIS (R) — The Arab League has started moving documents from Tunis back to Cairo in line with a league resolution passed by a narrow majority last month, Arab diplomats said Friday. Tunisia, temporary headquarters of the league since 1979, says it has reservations about the early departure but it has done nothing to obstruct it, they said. Twelve of the league's 21 members decided in Cairo in September that the move should be complete by Oct. 31. A meeting last March, before the Gulf crisis divided the Arab World, had set a timetable extending until next June. Tunisian Foreign Minister Habib Boulares told a meeting of Arab foreign ministers in New York Wednesday that Tunisia would abide by the decisions of the March meeting, which were approved by all the league members. The March meeting proposed leaving a permanent Arab league office in Tunis but the Cairo meeting did not mention this. The Arab diplomats said the league started shipping documents to Cairo several days ago and the staff of the secretariat would have moved by the end of the month.

## Qasem exchanges views with Qian, U.N. chief

AMMAN — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al-Qasem exchanged views about the developments in the Gulf region with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for an exchange of views on the same issue. According to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Qasem underlined the need of a political solution to the crisis and his views were supported by the Chinese minister who said the Peking backs all efforts for a settlement through peaceful means. Petra said Qasem briefed Perez de Cuellar on Jordan's difficult economic conditions as a result of its application of sanctions on Iraq in adherence to U.N. Security Council resolutions. It said that the minister demanded that the United Nations take measures to provide Jordan with assistance to help the Kingdom to overcome the present economic difficulties.

Qasem was quoted as saying that Iraq considered French President Francois Mitterrand's ideas about a settlement as positive. The London based Al Hayat Arabic daily quoted Qasem as saying that Jordan had repeatedly called for an unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait but Baghdad stressed that the most proper solution to the Gulf crisis should be found within the Arab framework. Qasem said that Jordan has not had sufficient time to exhaust its efforts to achieve that goal, the paper reported. Qasem also stressed the need for the United Nations to implement all Security Council resolutions concerning the occupied Palestinian and Lebanese territories.

## 4 Germans fly out of Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — Four German nationals arrived here from Baghdad Friday on their way home after being granted permission to leave by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. The four men arrived aboard a commercial Iraqi Airways flight at Amman airport and were whisked to the transit lounge to catch a Royal Jordanian (RJ) flight for Istanbul, Turkey and Frankfurt. German embassy charge d'affaires Matthias Meyer said the four were not diplomats. "They are German citizens working in Kuwaiti companies," Meyer said. "They were all in good condition and they were very happy that they were going home." Meyer refused to disclose their names. The Iraqi News Agency called them "foreign guests," the term for the estimated 2,000 Westerners who are being detained in Iraq and Kuwait, several hundred as detainees against military attack following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. Their release is "an expression of the Iraqi people joining in the happiness of the German people in reuniting their country," INA quoted Parliamentary Speaker Mehdi Saleh as saying. INA said the four Germans left with Brigitta Koegler, deputy chairwoman of Democratic Awakening, a centre-right group associated with the Christian Democratic Party.

## Hurd: Palestine problem will have to be solved after Iraq leaves Kuwait

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches  
AMMAN — Britain appears to have fallen in step with an American shift in its approach to the Gulf crisis by calling for moves to resolve the Palestinian problem after Iraq withdraws from Kuwait and urging Israel to consider a "fresh thinking" in its position towards the Arab-Israeli conflict. In a speech widely interpreted as moving closer to the American position, as outlined by President George Bush last week, British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd said in London Thursday that although he could not see any progress towards settling the Palestinian problem before Iraq withdraws its forces from Kuwait, he believed that the Palestinian problem will have to be addressed immediately after Iraq leaves the emirate which it invaded and took over Aug. 2. "New initiatives over Palestine can only take place once (Iraq) has been driven out of Kuwait," Hurd told a dinner of the di-

plomatic and Commonwealth writers' association. "I can see no hope of progress until that has happened." But Hurd held out the prospect of a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East once Iraq withdraws from Kuwait. Hurd, who is to visit Egypt and Israel next week, challenged Israel to be prepared "with fresh thinking" for round table talks with Arab states. "Anyone with a sense of humanity must sympathise with the Palestinians," he said. "Their lands are occupied, they have no political rights and they are daily victims of a misguided policy which believes that the security of Israel must rest on closed universities, illegitimate settlements and even collective punishments." Israel had a right to credible security, but no one could be surprised that Palestinian protests continued, he said. "With Iraq out of Kuwait, moderate Arab opinion will have

triumphed and will be in the ascendancy over the extremists," Hurd said. "Israel should seize that opportunity. It may be its best chance to secure the acceptance of the state of Israel behind secure borders." Hurd outlined a role for the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council — Britain, France, the United States, the Soviet Union and China — in a settlement. "Consultations among the five and a positive approach in Israel and the Arab countries most closely involved are preparatory steps." "We believe that preparation should aim at, and end in, an international conference. "All parties with a direct interest should be allowed a seat, the Israelis and Palestinians, other Arab states in the region, the five." Referring to the role of the

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## Kaifu visit seen as positive contribution to diplomacy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter  
AMMAN — Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's talks with His Majesty King Hussein and other Jordanian leaders as well as Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan are seen as a positive contribution to diplomatic efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis. The Japanese prime minister, who arrived here Wednesday and flew to Turkey Thursday evening, discussed political means to end the Gulf crisis, triggered by Iraq's Aug. 2 takeover of Kuwait. The most outstanding feature of his discussions here was an emphasis on the need to avert a military conflagration in the region, according to reports from both sides. In his talks with Kaifu, the King said the world should not expect a peace solution if it contribute to enclose Iraq in a wall of principles. "We must deal with the causes of the Gulf crisis in a realistic fashion," the King was quoted as saying by a Japanese spokesman.

Kaifu's visit to the Middle East, the first high level Japanese foray into the region after the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait, was mostly seen as aimed at an exploratory and familiarisation trip as well as at announcing Japanese aid for Egypt, Jordan and Turkey (see separate story), but it acquired an added political dimension with his meeting with Ramadan, number three in the Iraqi hierarchy. According to Japanese spokesmen, the meeting, originally scheduled to last one hour, stretched into two hours. Kaifu reiterated Japan's rejection of the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait and called on Baghdad to withdraw its forces from Kuwait, restore the ousted Emir regime in Kuwait, allow all foreigners to leave Iraq and Kuwait, the spokesman said. "Only when Iraq does this, fruitful and constructive negotiations for peace would follow," the spokesman said. Ramadan briefed Kaifu on the historical background of Iraq's takeover of Kuwait and how Baghdad saw an anti-Iraq

campaign in the West which prompted it to take action, according to the spokesman. Ramadan also referred to the four-stage French peace plan for the Middle East and described it as "first step towards peace" and that Iraq was "ready to follow it up." The net outcome of the meeting was that "both sides struck to their position" but Kaifu agreed to continue contacts. The meeting also did not result in a separate deal between Baghdad and Tokyo to release Japanese nationals held in Iraq. Kaifu was the first leader of the group of seven industrialised nations to establish contact with an Iraqi leader of Ramadan's stature after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. The Japanese spokesman said Kaifu had not formulated a position on the French initiative. He also reiterated Japan's call for a solution to the Palestinian problem on the basis of United Nations resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolution 242. "We accept

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## \$250m Japanese aid gives Jordan economy a good start

By Ghadeer Taher Jordan Times Staff Reporter  
AMMAN — Japan's pledge of \$250 million in soft loans to Jordan has raised to \$450 million the amount the Kingdom would receive to help it grapple with its difficult economic situation and a senior official said it was a good beginning for Amman's efforts to put its economy back on track. "It is the beginning of a process and is a good start," said a senior cabinet minister. "We have to see the Japanese pledge as part of the package that Jordan would receive from the international community to help us face the situation," he said. The minister noted that Jordan had already received a pledge of DM 200 million (\$130 million) in commodity loans and grants from West Germany in addition to another DM 82 million under various bilateral agreements. Furthermore, Jordan also expects to receive loans and grants from the European Community (EC) under a 1.5 billion European currency unit (ECU) aid package for the Kingdom as well as Turkey and Egypt. EC delegate to Jordan

Christian Falkowski said the "final allocations" had not been made yet. Meeting in New York last week, EC ministers agreed on the amount but no specific details have been released. The minister said \$100 million of the Japanese aid will be in the form of loans under "very soft terms," and \$75 million in loans under stricter terms. No decision has been made how to disburse the rest of the \$150m package, for economic and industrial restructuring projects, he told the Jordan Times. The total amount includes \$90 million covered under an earlier agreement between Amman and Tokyo. Jordan expected substantial amount of aid from the international community to offset the heavy losses it suffered as a direct consequence of compliance with United Nations imposed sanctions against Iraq. Economist Jawad Anani said: "We appreciate the Japanese assistance and it is a good beginning but it is not enough for Jordan to deal with its economic problems." Another analyst said the amount of the aid package was disappointing and asserted that the reason was politically moti-

vated. "The Japanese are waiting to see if Jordan fully complies with sanctions," the analyst said Friday. The United States is reportedly exerting pressure on Tokyo on how to allocate an aid package of \$2 billion to the "frontline" states of Jordan, Egypt and Turkey. Washington is trying to control dispersal of international aid efforts by putting the funds in a pool and managing it for that purpose but Japan has said it wants the dispersal on a bilateral basis or with involvement with international organisations, including the World Bank. Kaifu's spokesman Shigeo Takenaka Thursday told a press conference: "It is Japan's decision as to how the money is given." The \$250 million pledge is part of a \$2 billion aid package to Jordan, Egypt and Turkey. The \$100 million is part of a \$600 million emergency package while the other \$150 million from the remaining \$1.4 billion. The \$100 million of emergency aid will be transferred to the Kingdom soon, Takenaka said. The loan has one per cent

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## Moscow, anxious to avert war, seeks compromise solution to Gulf crisis

By Lami K. Andoni Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A high-level Soviet envoy who is currently visiting Iraq is seeking a compromise political solution for the Gulf crisis to avert a military confrontation, according to Jordanian and Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) officials who have met with the Soviet official in Amman last week. Yevgeny Primakov, who made a short visit to Amman on his way to Baghdad, is said to be exploring prospects for a compromise solution. Jordanian officials said that the Soviet envoy emphasised three points about his mission to Iraq: The urgent need to find a compromise political solution, the prevention of a military confrontation and a linkage between the Gulf crisis and a settlement for the Arab-Israeli conflict and all the prob-

lems in the region. They did not elaborate on the mechanism to bring about a practical linkage in terms of a political solution but said that the Soviets appeared very concerned over achieving comprehensive peace in the region. The officials welcomed the new Soviet move as "very positive and constructive" step to prevent war in the region. Jordan has also welcomed statements by U.S. President George Bush in which he said that an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait will pave the way for the solution of the other conflicts in the region. Prime Minister Mudar Badran described the U.S. statement as "positive." Badran, however, stressed that the basis for any settlement should be the implementation of all United Nations Security Council resolutions on all the conflicts in the region. Jordanian and PLO officials said that the Soviet envoy was stressing a linkage between the Gulf crisis and the Arab-Israeli conflict through striving for a comprehensive and permanent peace in the

## Gorbachev urges Iraq to pursue political solution

MOSCOW (R) — An envoy of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev has told Iraq its forces should leave Kuwait, Soviet television reported Friday. In a report from Baghdad, a television correspondent said Yevgeny Primakov stressed to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein that Moscow wanted a political settlement of the Gulf crisis.

"In the course of a long conversation it was emphasised that the Soviet Union is working actively for a political settlement of the crisis, meaning the return to the situation which existed before Aug. 2," the correspondent said. Earlier, the Iraqi news agency (INA) reported Primakov had met Saddam and given him a letter from the Soviet leader, but gave no more details of their meeting.

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region. PLO Executive Committee member Abdullah Hourani said that Primakov was seeking a compromise solution for the Gulf crisis which can "satisfy all the parties involved." During his visit to Amman, Primakov was received by His Majesty King Hussein and met with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, who made a short stop over here on his

way to Baghdad Wednesday. Hourani, who was part of the PLO delegation, said that Primakov emphasised the linkage between a solution for the Gulf crisis and an overall settlement in the Middle East. The PLO official said that Primakov conveyed the impression that Moscow was lending its weight to

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## U.S. budget hits trouble

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House of Representatives ignored pleas from President George Bush and congressional leaders and rejected a \$500-billion deficit-reduction plan early Friday. The White House said the president would not support an emergency spending bill to keep the government operating. The president scheduled an afternoon cabinet meeting "to discuss the budget and the possible shutdown of the government at midnight tonight," said presidential spokesman Martin Fitzwater.

Fitzwater said that the president was disappointed with the vote early Friday but remained firm in his opposition to a short-term spending bill. He said the president was hopeful that Congress would take another try Friday at passing a five-year \$500-billion deficit-reduction.

On Capitol Hill, leaders prepared to rush an emergency spending bill through Congress to keep the government operating. However, Fitzwater said that Bush had decided that if Congress sends him such a bill, he would simply ignore it, neither signing it nor vetoing it. In the house vote, lawmakers rebelled at proposed increases in Medicare costs for retirees and consumer tax increases — on gasoline, tobacco and alcohol.

"This is a sad night for the house, for our political system and for America," Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, said after the vote. "Our president has asked us to pull together. Too many of my colleagues have given him the back of their hands." Only 71 Republicans supported the agreement.

## Iraq ready to accept international legitimacy if applied all over Mideast

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraq is ready to accept international legitimacy in the Gulf crisis if all U.N. Security Council resolutions on other issues in the Middle East — the Palestinian and Lebanese problems — are implemented simultaneously, Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan said Thursday. Ramadan, who arrived here Wednesday and held separate talks with His Majesty King Hussein and Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu Thursday before flying home later in the day, made the following points during his press conference. "We have carried a personal message from Saddam Hussein to His Majesty King Hussein."

"We have together with the rest of the (Arab) brothers to increase efforts for better conditions for a peaceful solution and an open dialogue about the entire problems of the region, including what was called the Gulf problem."

"We agreed to continue dialogue and exchange of ideas" with Japan. On the French plan for Middle East peace, he said: "Our estimate to what was called an initiative, that is what was mentioned in Mitterrand's speech. It is the first of this kind to come out from an important European country like France. ... In our estimate, we are confident it was from a source of confidence and one who believes in a solution to the issue. The initiative points even slightly to the other regional problems, the Palestinian issue, Lebanon and occupied Arab land, despite this hint was not strong, but there was a hint. We think this French initiative could be developed in the direction of a general framework that can be close to the Iraqi initiative."

"It is a small open window but it gives us hope especially as it comes from a country we think has good intentions. It could be developed."

This does not mean it is an initiative that conforms with the Iraqi view. "People are mistaken if they think the presence of foreign troops in the Arab area will help to find a solution through terrorism and pressure. We know that those calling for these forces and at that speed aimed at blocking any dialogue or peaceful solution because as Arabs and Iraqis reject any dialogue under military threat. "We did not say that everyone must agree to all the points of the Iraqi initiative of Aug. 12 but this is our point of view and we are ready for any evolution or additions that could make the initiative acceptable to the concerned parties in a way which would ensure justice. All Arabs and Muslims look to Jerusalem which is much more important spiritually than Kuwait and half the Arab World. How can Arabs and

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## Iraq accuses U.S. of precipitating world war to gain control of oil

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Iraq Friday accused the United States and its allies of bringing "the entire world to the brink of a devastating war" in their quest to gain control of the Middle East's oil. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz prepared the address to the General Assembly, which an Iraqi diplomat was scheduled to deliver Friday evening. It was circulated to news media prior to delivery. Aziz did not come to New York to deliver the speech personally, as he has in past years, because the United States denied landing rights for the plane the Iraqi delegation has used in the past, proposing instead that Aziz take a commercial flight. Iraq's permanent representative to the United Nations, Abdul Amir Al-Anbazi, was scheduled to deliver the speech Friday evening. But he suffered a severe nosebleed Thursday evening and there were reports that

Iraq's deputy representative, Sabah Talat Kadrat, would deliver the speech. The speech accused the Security Council of hypocrisy for its strong reaction to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait while allowing Israel to continue occupying Arab lands seized in the 1967 and 1973 wars. The speech rejected claims that the United States and its allies, who have massed a large military force in the Gulf and mobilised diplomatic pressure against Iraq, including mandatory sanctions, are acting in defence of international law and the U.N. Charter. The speech asked why they have not taken similar action on other unresolved issues, such as the Arab-Israeli conflict. "America and its Western allies are seeking, through this military, political and disinformation campaign, to gain control over the oil wells and to

impose imperialist political, economic and military hegemony over the world, and over third-world countries in particular." He said the whole Middle East "is seething with anger and tension with explosive problems," as it was before August — an allusion to the takeover of Kuwait. "Therefore, if the five permanent members of the Security Council and the Security Council as a whole are really interested in upholding the charter and international law and in establishing peace and justice in the region, the way to achieve these goals is well known: On Aug. 12, 1990, President Saddam Hussein proposed that all the issues in the region — Palestine, Lebanon, the Gulf and others — be considered on an equal footing..." The Security Council should "seek

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## Iraq said to have nuclear-equivalent explosives

LOS ANGELES (Agencies) — Iraq has high-explosive devices that pack the equivalent destructive power of small nuclear bombs, a newspaper reported Friday. The fuel-air explosives, or FAEs, have 10 times the power of conventional explosives and create a huge fireball and shock wave over a concentrated area, without the radiation fallout associated with nuclear weapons, the Los Angeles Times reported. "It's not your garden-variety weapon," said Henry Sokolski of the Pentagon's international security affairs office. "These are blast-effect weapons, and what you can't see can kill you." Military officials say the United States has no ready defence against the explosives that could devastate oil fields, air bases and troops, the newspaper reported. FAEs can be launched as bombs from airplanes or as warheads on missiles. Pentagon officials said U.S. forces would have the most difficulty defending against a missile-delivered warhead, but there is no clear evidence Iraq has the ability to mount the explosives on

missiles. Senators John Glenn and Jesse Helms are among five senators who have requested a letter to Defence Secretary Dick Cheney that he launch an investigation to determine Iraq's supply of FAEs. The Times said earlier reports indicated Iraq received the scientific knowledge to build these weapons from the German arms industry. A major German aerospace and defence firm, Messerschmitt-Bolkow-Blohm, conducted feasibility studies on an FAE device as part of a missile project with the Egyptian government. That project was terminated in 1988, said company spokesman Willie Vogler. According to reports from the BBC and Der Spiegel, a German magazine, Egypt gave the studies to Iraq. An unidentified congressional investigator told the Times that U.S. technology may have been involved as well, although the United States does not carry FAEs in its own arsenal. The weapons are currently in the arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, West Ger-

many, Spain, and perhaps some Third World nations in addition to Iraq, according to Pentagon sources. British defence experts believe that a war between Iraq and the international forces gathered in the Gulf would last no more than a few weeks. Francois Heisbourg, director of the London-based International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS), said this week: "NATO used to talk of a conventional battle of days or weeks. The situation is not necessarily any different in the Gulf." At a news conference to mark the publication Thursday of the institute's latest assessment of the world's armed forces, IISS experts said that apart from Iraq's seven elite Republican Guard divisions, the rest of the army was fairly mediocre. But Heisbourg, said some would give a good fight. "The nut would not be all the easy to crack on the ground," he said. U.S. President George Bush has consulted members of Congress on the possible use of force in the Gulf to head off charges of

failing to consult before committing U.S. troops to battle, the Washington Post reported Friday. The Post, quoting administration and Capitol Hill sources, said Bush had begun a series of private discussions "to meet in advance any congressional objections that could arise if he sends U.S. troops into battle there." The Post, citing congressional sources, said Bush or his aides, in closed session, had laid out a number of possible scenarios for the Gulf including one involving use of U.S. air power in conjunction with friendly Arab ground troops to regain Kuwait. Roman Popadiuk, the deputy White House spokesman, said he was not aware of any such meetings. Congress plans to adjourn for the year on Oct. 19. As Congress is unlikely to give any specific congressional authorisation for military action by then, Bush was said to realise he faced a possible congressional uproar if he sent U.S. forces to war without clear provocation while Congress was out of town.



## New laws spawn exodus of Yemenis from S. Arabia

AL KHOBAR (AP) — Qaid Seif Mohammad, a Yemeni who owns two clothing stores in Saudi Arabia, thinks he will be back in his native land farming coffee and the narcotic khat within a month. "I wish I could stay here and make money, but I don't think I'll be able to," he said Thursday.

Under Saudi Arabia's tough residence laws for Yemenis announced Sept. 20, labourers have to find a local sponsor by the end of October or they can not get a residence permit. Those with trading licences have three months.

The law was enacted as Yemen underwent criticism for not appearing willing to help Iraq evade a U.N.-imposed trade embargo.

Saudi officials said the push to register the Yemenis is just a precaution in case trouble develops in the community.

"The Yemenis are potentially destabilising. There are just so many of them," said another Western diplomat.

Up to now Yemenis have had almost the same rights as Saudis, allowed to cross the border without visas and set up businesses without local sponsors. No other foreign communities enjoyed these freedoms.

Customs officials said earlier this week that at least 100,000 had crossed the southern border so far.

The roads in southern provinces like Abha are full of cars and small buses piled with cloth bundles and the gaudily painted untrucks the country is famous for.

Yemenis think up to half the community of one million will go home.

"The kingdom is disposing of

us," said Abdo, another clothing seller in Saudi Arabia for the past 15 years.

Saudi officials, while publicly denying claims they are pushing the Yemenis across the border, speak harshly of their southern neighbour in private.

"Why should we help a country who is against us," said one official.

Aside from taking in Yemeni labourers, Saudi officials said Riyadh paid for half of Yemen's annual budget, serviced the air-ports of Yemenia Airways for free and underwrote schools, hospitals and roads.

Billions in aid and remittances in jeopardy.

The government in Sanaa, capital of the country that united just last May, was slow in condemning Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait and it tolerated anti-Saudi sentiments.

That attitude has begun to change, with Yemen voting last week for the air blockade and not announcing a visit Tuesday by Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz.

Yemen said it stands to lose \$1.6 billion by respecting the sanctions, as Iraqi oil can no longer be processed at the Aden refinery.

Diplomats and Saudi officials expect Egyptians will benefit most from the rift. Egypt is clearly worried about the hundreds of thousands of workers from Iraq and Kuwait pouring back into its anemic economy.

"Half a million Egyptians in Saudi Arabia can earn more than the two million in Baghdad," said one Saudi source.

Yemenis interviewed at random tend to be more critical of their own government than that in Saudi Arabia, fearing poverty

in the slow job market at home. Most cannot understand why the government took a stand that would hurt small labourers economically.

"It has been extremely resented by Yemenis here," said one prominent member of the community. "We enjoyed a lot of privileges."

Many point out that the feud between the two sides has been going on for centuries and is apparently entering another rough patch.

Bombs exploded in Riyadh in the 1960s when Saudi Arabia supported Yemeni royalists in a long civil war.

Most of the southern provinces of Saudi Arabia have only been part of the kingdom since 1934 under the treaty of Taif, and the borders between the two countries is notoriously porous.

In southern Najran province, Saudi police forces are constantly trying to stem the flow of alcohol and khat, a narcotic leaf chewed for its numbing effect, smuggled over the border.

The fighting between the two sides predates Islam. In the sixth century the people of the Najran were Christians, a faith introduced by merchants playing the spice routes.

In 525, King Thon Nawas, a Jew from Yemen, invaded to try to force them to renounce their conversions. The holdouts were burned alive in a ditch and the remnants of their city still visible just outside the city of Najran.

Many tribes in Saudi Arabia can trace their roots back to Yemen.

Said one senior provincial official: "Sometimes the feuds between brothers are harsher than those between non-brothers."

## Skirmishes in E. Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Rival Christian forces skirmished with machine guns in east Beirut overnight and a sergeant loyal to rebel General Michel Aoun was killed in the clash, police said Friday.

A pro-Syrian Muslim leader called on Aoun to turn over his 207-square-kilometre enclave to the government of President Elias Hrawi to facilitate ending Lebanon's 15-year-old civil war.

But Aoun hardened his stance by demanding the resignation of Hrawi, who has ordered a blockade of the rebel general's enclave since last Sunday.

"The blockade is a step in the march to end Aoun's mutiny," said Abdallah Al Amin, leader of the Organisation of the Arab Baath Socialist Party, Lebanon's chapter of Syrian President Hafez Al Assad's ruling party.

Syria is the main power broker in Lebanon with 40,000 troops deployed in predominantly Muslim regions under a 1976 peacekeeping mandate from the Arab League.

"If the blockade failed to eliminate the mutiny, then the government will have to take the second step which is ending the mutiny through military means," Amin told the newspaper Al Liwa.

But the pro-Syrian leader left the door open for a peaceful settlement with the rebel general, saying Aoun "can join the government."

Al Nahar, the country's leading daily paper, said Aoun has rejected an offer by the Vatican to mediate a peaceful settlement to his mutiny.

Aoun informed Papal Nuncio Pablo Puente that he was "only willing to receive him if the latter carried with him President Elias Hrawi's letter of resignation," the newspaper said.

Aoun's new stand was his "expression of rejecting the Vatican's effort," it said. Both Aoun and Hrawi are Maronite Catholics, the largest Christian community which has dominated life in Lebanon since independence from France in 1943.

Aoun has rejected Hrawi's election last November in line with an Arab League-brokered peace accord to end the nation's civil war.

Aoun has said the peace accord, worked out by Lebanese legislators under Arab League auspices in the Saudi Arabian town of Taif last October, did not reflect the free will of Lebanese representatives.

## Soviet deputies denounce Shevardnadze on policy

MOSCOW (R) — Hardline Soviet parliamentary deputies denounced Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze Friday and said any dispatch of troops to the Gulf would make the Soviet Union a target for Iraqi missile attack.

The "Soyuz" (union) group accused Shevardnadze of overstepping his authority in New York last week by declaring Moscow was willing to send troops under auspices of the United Nations.

"Who sanctioned Shevardnadze's statement?" Soyuz, which claims 458 deputies in the 2,000-strong congress, asked.

"Were we not assured... during the debate on the Afghan adventure that in future any decision on sending Soviet military units overseas would be taken only with the approval of parliament?"

The 1979 Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan was decided in secret by four top communist leaders. The war lasted nine years, costing thousands of lives and leaving a deep scar in Soviet political life.

Soyuz, fiercely opposed to radical reform and committed to preservation of the Soviet Union, recalled that Iraq had threatened measures against any country in-

volved in military action against it.

"This means that Iraqi rockets, armed with bacteriological and chemical warheads, would not be fired at the U.S. and Britain, which are thousands of kilometers (miles) from the conflict zone, but against our territory, against the Transcaucasus, the northern Caucasus region and Central Asia," the statement said.

"Does the person who took the decision on participation of a Soviet military contingent in possible military operations in the Gulf have any idea of the consequences of such actions?" Soyuz asked.

Iraqi territory lies only about 500 kilometres from Soviet frontiers. The build-up of U.S. forces in the area has already drawn expressions of concern from hardline Soviet military officials, who charge that Washington plans a long-term stationing of troops there.

Shevardnadze said Soviet troops could be sent to the Gulf only as part of a U.N. peacekeeping force. Some 900,000 soldiers, chiefly American, are already deployed there.

But the Soviet Union still publicly rules out direct military action against Iraq.

## Soviet migrants bolster Israeli conscription, reserve

LONDON (AP) — The influx of Soviet Jews into Israel will add significantly to the Jewish state's military potential, the International Institute for Strategic Studies says.

"While this (Soviet immigration) will not in the long term redress the demographic imbalance between Jews and Arabs (both in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza Strip), it will add significant numbers to the pool available for conscription and reserve," the institute said.

The institute noted in its annual survey of global forces, the Military Balance, that the Soviet Jewish immigration is the "focus of much attention" among Israel's Arab neighbours.

It said a total of 100,000 Soviet Jews were expected to arrive in 1990 "with perhaps as many as one million coming over the next 10 years."

The report said Israel's defence forces have accepted they cannot quell the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip which began in December 1987.

It said military service there continues to erode training standards among Israeli troops and undermine morale.

Elsewhere, the institute said in its section on the Middle East that both Iran and Iraq continued to rebuild their forces following the end of the Gulf war in 1988.

The report, written before Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait, said Iraq's new acquisitions included 12 Soviet-made Mig-29 fighter planes this year.

"Iraq's ballistic missile development has been relatively successful with the 900-km range Al-Abbas (missile) and the 600-km Al-Husayn having been deployed and five other types under development," the report said.

"Iraq has deployed at least six Al-Husayn launchers to an airfield close to an area commonly known as H-2... in the western Iraqi desert from where targets throughout Syria and most of Israel can be engaged."

It said the Egyptian army has received 700 U.S. M-60A1 tanks

## Rebels claim control of Afghan city

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Islamic green flags belonging to insurgents flew from buildings in the capital of war-weary Afghanistan's Uruzgan province Friday after rebels claimed to have captured the city.

Insurgents reportedly overran Terin Kot, about 300 kilometres south of Kabul, after several days of fierce fighting, said Hamid Karzai, a guerrilla spokesman.

The report could not be independently confirmed.

The assault against government troops defending Terin Kot was launched by guerrillas of several different rebel groups headquartered in Pakistan.

For more than a dozen years

rebel fighters, bankrolled by the United States, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and other sympathetic Arab states, have been fighting to topple Kabul's Communist-style government.

Insurgents reportedly control much of the countryside but have been ineffective in destroying government defences around most cities.

For several months Moscow and Washington have been trying to hammer out an agreement to end the bloody fighting that has seemingly escalated in recent weeks.

They are reportedly "close" to an accord that calls for elections in the war-ravaged nation. The

stumbling block has been the role of Najibullah during polling and the composition of a neutral government that could oversee the voting.

After a hiatus of several months renewed fighting and rocket attacks have been reported throughout the country.

Earlier this week 61 people died and scores more were injured in successive rocket attacks on the Afghan capital.

Kabul Radio regularly blames insurgents of indiscriminately rocketing residential areas. Guerrilla leaders claim only military targets are hit, although they admit rockets are often misfired.

## Thousands of foreign workers remain in Iraq

NICOSIA (AP) — Nearly two months after most of the world cut off trade with Iraq, hundreds of thousands of foreign workers continue to keep the country's industries and construction on track.

Among them are Soviet oil field technicians, Bangladeshis working in Kuwait military camps and Poles building roads, pipelines and railroads.

The stranded foreigners include 25 Portuguese stone masons who last month completed the marble finishing on a presidential palace, the Foreign Ministry in Lisbon said.

Most foreign-backed construction projects came to a halt in the wake of U.N. sanctions barring trade with Iraq after its invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2. Many Iraqi government construction plans have stopped as imports of materials were cut off.

But some 500,000 Bangladeshis, Egyptians, Indians, Pakistanis and Sri Lankans are still in Iraq and Kuwait. Many are being kept at their old jobs.

About 2,000 Bangladeshis are working in Iraqi military camps in Kuwait, a Foreign Ministry official in Dhaka said this week.

About 4,500 Soviets in Iraq are key workers in the oil industry.

"The Iraqis are now dependent on these oil people," a foreign source in Baghdad said Thursday.

"If they go, no one else will come in to operate these fields."

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuri Gremitskiikh told reporters Tuesday that "regrettably, the Iraqi authorities clearly show tardiness in considering the documents submitted by the Soviet side to issue an exit permit for several groups of specialists."

While most foreigners in Iraq and Kuwait have no choice but to remain, some choose to stay, preferring to earn wages than face uncertain job outlooks back home.

Their governments disagree on whether the labourers who continue to work are violating the United Nations embargo on trade with Iraq.

"As far as I understand, working there would violate the sanctions," Swedish Foreign Ministry spokesman Lars-Olof Lundberg said Wednesday.

The British government is more flexible. "Like many governments, we have concluded that it is unreasonable to ask people who are essentially working under duress to stop working and put themselves at risk," a Foreign Office spokesman said.

U.N. directives regarding the sanctions are "open to interpretation," a Dutch Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

She said the status of a Dutch dredging project in southern Iraq, employing 104 Dutch citizens, is unclear.

Iraq refused to allow the project to stop in compliance with the embargo, the spokeswoman said, and there is speculation in the Netherlands that the dredgers are being forced to work.

Many Third World labourers working projects that were halted have been diverted to agriculture as Iraq seeks food self-sufficiency

to foil the trade embargo, a source in Baghdad said.

And some foreigners, while not forced to remain as "guests" by the Iraqi government, are encountering enormous difficulty in leaving the country.

A plane with 173 Brazilians, mainly weapons technicians and skilled construction workers, left Baghdad Wednesday after weeks of appeals and visits by high-ranking Brazilian officials.

Eighty-two Brazilians are still stranded in Iraq.

"It is not in their interest that people who have signed contracts should now leave Iraq. This fact can be observed while setting visa formalities," said Wladyslaw Kiaczynski, spokesman for Poland's Foreign Ministry.

About 1,060 Polish workers remain in Iraq, mainly engineers and construction workers building roads, pipelines and railroads when the crisis started.

The Iraqis are slow about giving exit visas, delaying but not preventing the workers from leaving, a European diplomat

said this week. Several hundred Bulgarians remain in Iraq as well as 66 Czechoslovaks, of whom 30 are working on an irrigation project.

Of the nearly 10,000 Yugoslavs engaged on construction projects in pre-invasion Iraq, less than 200 remain, reportedly engaged on the completion of a hydroelectric project.

For the past decade, China's sending of state-arranged contractual construction workers abroad has generated considerable profits.

Although China supports the U.N. sanctions, recent television footage seen in the Gulf region has shown Chinese workers busy to work at construction sites in Iraq.

A Romanian Foreign Ministry official said that 630 Romanians remain in Iraq.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Teodor Melescanu told reporters the Romanians in Iraq could not be assured of food or necessary medicine under the present conditions in Iraq. He said Romania

had launched an appeal at the U.N. for help for them.

At the outbreak of the Gulf crisis there were 3,055 Romanians in Iraq working on various projects.

Iraq was a major trading partner with Romania before Bucharest joined the U.N. embargo. Officials here have estimated the cost of the move to Romania at \$2.9 billion — the highest in Eastern Europe.

The figure includes \$1.7 billion in suspended debt repayment and \$1.2 billion in suspended contracts.

Deputy Foreign Minister Romulus Neagu returned this week from a 13-day trip to the Gulf region, in which he met with government leaders in Saudi Arabia, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates as President Ion Iliescu's envoy.

A Foreign Ministry statement said that Saudi Arabia and Qatar reacted "extremely favourably" to the idea of establishing diplomatic ties with Romania.

## MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

### 170,000 Saudis volunteer for army

RIYADH (R) — About 170,000 Saudis have volunteered for military training in urban warfare tactics, while thousands more are listed for civil defence operations, a senior government official said Friday. Saudi Arabia called for volunteers following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and fears of an attack on the kingdom, where tens of thousands of Western and Arab troops have been deployed. The official told Reuters the number of Saudis who expressed willingness to enlist as volunteers had exceeded all expectations. "The number of volunteers recorded in various parts of the kingdom has reached some 170,000 people," he said. He noted that the figure did not include thousands of other Saudi men for training in civil defence and women in first aid and nursing. Prince Mohammad Bin Fahd Ben Abdul Aziz, governor of the kingdom's Eastern Province adjacent to Kuwait, hinted earlier this week that his country might introduce conscription. He was speaking to reporters after the graduation of a first group of 456 Eastern Province volunteers — aged between 14 and 71.

### Japan may withdraw Iraq invitation

TOKYO (R) — Japan may withdraw its invitation to Iraq to attend next month's enthronement of Emperor Akihito, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Friday. "We are now giving this consideration," the spokesman said. Kyodo news agency said Friday that Japan will cancel the invitation as soon as Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu comes back from his Middle East trip Tuesday if Japanese in Iraq are not released. Iraqi Vice-President Taha Ma'sarouf was to attend the Nov. 12 ceremony along with about 100 other foreign dignitaries.

### Spanish crown prince heads for Gulf

MADRID (R) — Spain's Crown Prince Felipe de Borbon left Friday on a morale-boosting visit to three Spanish warships deployed in the Gulf to enforce sanctions against Iraq. The 22-year-old prince, accompanied by Defence Minister Narcis Serra, flew to Abu Dhabi where Saturday he will visit the frigate Santa Maria. On Sunday he goes on to the Egyptian Red Sea port of Hurgada to meet crew of the corvettes Cazadora and Descubierta before returning to Spain the same day.

### More Americans to leave Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Another group of U.S. citizens will be flown out of Iraq and Kuwait next Wednesday on a U.S.-government charter flight, the State Department said Thursday. The approximate number of Americans who will board the flight was not disclosed but officials said the total could be significant because a Boeing 747 has been chartered for the occasion. During September, about 1900 Americans — almost all women and children — were allowed to fly out of Iraq and Kuwait. The flights were halted on Sept. 22 because the State Department said virtually all those who wanted to leave and had permission to do so had departed. But U.S. officials, asking not to be identified, said that since Sept. 22, a number of Americans with permission to leave have made their presence known to U.S. diplomatic officials and said they wanted to return to the United States. The State Department said late last month that at least 900 U.S. citizens had remained trapped, including 600 to 700 in Kuwait and 300 to 350 in Iraq.

### British desert uniforms sold Iraq in 1986

LONDON (AP) — Old sweats, British army slang for seasoned soldiers, has taken on a whole new sticky meaning for those sent to the Gulf as part of the multinational force confronting Iraq. While the Britons sweater in army uniforms designed for cooler climes, the Iraqis stay cooler in uniforms that Britain sold them four years ago. The Defence Ministry said Thursday that in 1986 it sold its entire stock of desert uniforms to the Iraqis, thinking that with Britain's reduced defence commitments around the world they would no longer be needed. As a result, most of the 9,000 British soldiers who began arriving in the Gulf last week must wear their European camouflage uniforms while they await the arrival of new lightweight clothing. A ministry spokeswoman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the uniforms sold to the Iraqis in 1986 date from the 1960s when British troops were in Aden. "The uniforms were sold as a normal turnover of stock. The present deployment of forces to the Gulf was unforeseen," she said. "It would not have been economic for the army to hold that amount of desert uniforms in stores on a constant basis. The new uniforms (being sent from Britain) are all 100 per cent lightweight cotton and there will be sufficient to kit out all our forces in the Gulf," she said. "They will be ready in days or weeks."

### 300,000 displaced Kuwaitis in S. Arabia

RIYADH (AP) — The number of Kuwaiti refugees in Saudi Arabia has reached 300,000 double the figure announced previously, according to reports published in the kingdom Friday. Commerce Under-Secretary Abdul Rahman Al Zamil provided the revised figure, Saudi newspapers said. He also said the Kuwaitis' presence, along with that of foreign troops now based in the kingdom, had not led to any commodity shortages or price increases in Saudi Arabia. The United States alone has more than 100,000 troops now based in the kingdom. There are thousands of others from Britain, France, Egypt, Morocco, Syria, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Kuwait had a population estimated at 1.8 million at the time of the Aug. 2 Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, including about one million expatriate workers. Of the indigenous 800,000 Kuwaitis, an estimated 300,000 are estimated to be still inside the country, with the others having fled after the invasion. The displaced Kuwaitis have found refuge mainly in Saudi Arabia where the ousted emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, has also set up a "government-in-exile." Most of the others have found temporary refuge in other Gulf Arab countries, including Egypt.

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

### JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77311-19

#### PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 ..... Koran  
15:40 ..... Programme review  
15:45 ..... Children programme  
17:30 ..... Educational programme  
18:00 ..... News Summary  
18:10 ..... Local programme  
18:50 ..... Programme review  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
20:30 ..... Arabic series  
21:30 ..... Programme review  
21:50 ..... Local programme  
22:00 ..... News in Arabic  
23:10 ..... Arabic play

#### PROGRAMME TWO

16:00 ..... Documentary  
16:30 ..... News in French  
19:15 ..... Documentary  
20:00 ..... News in Arabic  
21:30 ..... Encounter  
21:50 ..... Classical music  
22:00 ..... News in English  
23:20 ..... Feature film

#### PRAYER TIMES

06:11 ..... Fajr  
05:38 ..... Sunrise  
11:24 ..... Dhuhur  
14:44 ..... Asr  
17:20 ..... Maghreb  
18:36 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swedish, Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757  
Terrence Church Tel. 622366  
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541  
Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 638543  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261  
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751  
Armenian International Church Tel. 685526  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295  
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 654952

#### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be hot and dry and winds will be easterly moderate to fresh, causing dust in desert areas. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

#### AMMAN

Dr. Mohammad Al Ajam ..... 894184  
Dr. Abdul Rahim Ahmad ..... 744685  
Dr. Khalil Abdul Gader ..... 792792  
Dr. Ameer Maw Al Haj ..... 771020  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdows pharmacy ..... 776336  
Al Asena pharmacy ..... 637055  
Nairookh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmoran pharmacy ..... 657660

#### IRBID:

Dr. Mohammad Al Sharaa ..... (—)

#### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

AMMAN:  
Dr. Mohammad Al Ajam ..... 894184  
Dr. Abdul Rahim Ahmad ..... 744685  
Dr. Khalil Abdul Gader ..... 792792  
Dr. Ameer Maw Al Haj ..... 771020  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
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Nairookh pharmacy ..... 623672  
Al Salam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yacoub pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmoran pharmacy ..... 657660

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Mohammad Al Ajam ..... 894184  
Dr. Abdul Rahim Ahmad ..... 744685  
Dr. Khalil Abdul Gader ..... 792792  
Dr. Ameer Maw Al Haj ..... 771020  
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#### AMMAN

Dr. Mohammad Al Ajam .....



## Water rationing to end

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Water and Irrigation Daoud Khalaf said on Jordan Television that the water distribution programme which was introduced at the beginning of the summer, 1990, could end by Oct. 31.

The programme is introduced normally in May and runs throughout the summer in view of the expected increase in water consumption during the hot season on the one hand and the presence in Jordan of large numbers of expatriates spending the holiday here on the other.

The minister's statement coincided with an announcement by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation that there would be a new rate for water prices in Jordan aimed at charging higher price from those consuming more than 70 cubic metres of water every three months.

The announcement said that in accordance with the new rates, which became effective as of the beginning of October, 100 fils will be charged for the consumption of 1 to 20 cubic metres, 190 fils for 21 to 40 metres, 400 fils for 41 to 70 metres, 500 fils for 71 to 100 metres, and 600 fils for more than these amounts in the Amman Governorate.

The announcement indicated that the rate would be lower for other governorates and still lower for residents of the Jordan Valley region.

Those to be affected by the higher prices represent only 10 per cent of the Amman residents as well as business companies and other organisations, according to the announcement.

According to the minister, those consuming less than 70 cubic metres of water in three months will not be affected by the new set of rates.

In a statement last July, Khalaf said that Jordan was seeking new sources of water because the annual needs of water for drinking and irrigation purposes amount to 755 million cubic metres, with the needs growing every year.

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation expects domestic consumption (water at homes) to rise to 260 million by the year 2005, up from the present 180 million, the minister said in May 1990 when the water distribution programme was put into effect.

Ministry of Water and Irrigation's Secretary-General Mutazz Al Bilbeisi said in May that Jordan was expected to face sharp shortages of water supply in the near future and was turning its attention to the prospects of benefiting from non-traditional water resources.

Like recycling treated waste water to be used in farming, desalination of water and the utilisation of water to be collected from Yarmouk River.

Prime Minister Mudar Badran had instructed the Ministry of Water and Irrigation to declare 1991 as the "year of water" for Jordan and said that the ministry's teams of experts should conduct a thorough study of Jordan's water resources and build 10 earth dams to collect water.

## Produce prices drop after Saudi Arabia's ban

By Maha Addasi  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A general survey conducted by the Jordan Times showed that the prices of fruit and vegetables in Jordan's market have dropped by around 30 per cent as a result of Saudi Arabia's ban on trucks carrying Jordanian produce to the Gulf markets.

An informed source at the Ministry of Agriculture said that the ban would affect farmers' most as there is a surplus in the supply of vegetables locally.

"Farmers are the hardest hit in this situation," the source said. "These farmers have to face both the negative effects of lowered profits and the need to deal with the tremendous amounts of perishable goods that can not be absorbed by the local market."

To muffle the blow as much as possible, the tomato paste processing plant in Arida was reopened by the Ministry of Agriculture, Tuesday.

The plant is offering farmers the chance to sell tomatoes at higher prices than the market prices," said Saud Al-Zahed, an economist from the Ministry of Agriculture. "But we don't know what to do with the other varieties of goods."

Ministry of Agriculture is looking for alternative foreign markets in Europe and Africa, but meanwhile local consumers, with the balance tipped in their favour, are now getting "more for less" from the local groceries.

"Instead of buying one kilo, the consumer now buys four," Mubarak Darweesh, a grocer in Jubeiha, said. "But the disadvantage now is that with the lower prices we have less liquidity."

Another grocer, Ahmed Al Shobaki, said that his grocery store, like all small stores, was not financially affected by the ban.

On a larger monetary level, the ban will lead to reduced amounts of hard currency in Jordan, which will reflect negatively on the Jordanian economy, leading to yet more adverse results, according to Al-Zahed. He also said that the truck-driver's wages can no longer be paid, so they would become unemployed.

According to press reports here, the trucks that were returned from Saudi Arabia took their goods to the central market in Jordan, but because of the increased supply and the decreased demand, the prices there dropped to half what they used to be.

An informed source there said that although the central market tries to make the selling procedure easier, it does not have any immediate solutions, but emphasises the need for alternative markets.

An official at the Agricultural Marketing Organisation (AMO), expressed hope that the ban was only temporary.

"The possible alternative is the European market, he said, which presently consumes only one per cent of our exported fruit and vegetables," he said.

Saudi Arabia, alone, in the Gulf market consumed 50 per cent, estimated at JD 130 million every year.

Al-Zahed said that contacts at high official level are taking place to find a solution for this problem.

News reports Friday said that the Saudi Arabian Embassy here had given some truck drivers passes to pass through Saudi Arabia's territory to reach the Gulf market.

"Meanwhile," Al Zahed said, "we have to wait and hope this measure is reversed."

## WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

### EXHIBITIONS

- \* Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zura displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- \* Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.
- \* Plastic art exhibition by Jordanian artists Maha and Ahmad Al Syout at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- \* Plastic art exhibition by four Palestinian artists depicting the suffering of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation at the Jordan National Gallery for Fine Arts.

### FILMS

- \* German film entitled "Abrechnung?" at the Goethe Institute — 8:00 p.m.
- \* French film entitled "Richard et Cosima" at the French Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.

## UNDRO official tours evacuee camps amid criticism at lack of donations from Western governments

### Japan honours pledge to evacuees

AMMAN (J.T.) — The United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation (UNDRO) coordinator, under-secretary general Essafi who toured evacuee camps in Jordan Thursday, has scheduled a press conference Saturday to discuss the conditions at the camps and the U.N.-sponsored relief operations as well as repatriation processes.

Essafi, who is on a several-day visit to Jordan, visited evacuees in the camps and was briefed on assistance given them by the Jordanian government with the help of international organisations.

His visit to the Kingdom comes amid criticism at lack of donations from Western governments although an UNDRO official said that the organisation had mobilised \$35 million mainly from Japanese contributions.

UNDRO, which is overseeing relief efforts, said it urgently needed \$1 million to pay for food and shelter for desperate Asians crossing from Iraq into Iran.

A statement by UNDRO said from the nearly \$34 million promised to the organisation by the end of last week only the Japanese government had paid in full. Tokyo, it said, has given \$20 million to the U.N. agency.

Meanwhile Japan has sent a chartered passenger aircraft to transport Asian evacuees stranded in Jordan back to their home country.

The chartered plane arrived at Amman's Queen Alia International Airport Friday to transport the evacuees, airport officials said.

According to the Japanese Embassy here, the plane brought to Jordan 20,000 relief rations of hard biscuit provided by the government of Japan to be handed over through the World Food Programme (WFP) to the government of Jordan.

The plane carried 15 volunteers who will engage in relief activities related to evacuees in Jordan. According to an embassy statement, the plane also carried three tonnes of relief materials including canned food, powdered milk, blankets and other supplies.

Japan Airlines and All Nippon Airways on September 19 operated two flights to Amman to repatriate 600 Philippine evacuees.

The Public Security Department (PSD) announced that a total of 14,581 evacuees arrived in Jordan Thursday and that 15,143 left the country. The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) reported that 7,310 evacuees left Thursday by air on board 32 unscheduled flights.

## Private university — a chance to study, spend money at home

By Serene Halasa  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A plan to open six new private universities was undertaken by the Council of Higher Education in August 1989 with the aim of absorbing the high numbers of students seeking higher education, and of taking off some of the pressure from the four existing government owned universities.

The Amman University College, that started teaching in Sept. 1990, is the first of these private universities opening in Jordan. Another university, the Jordanian Girls University College, is still under construction and will start its academic year in Sept. 1991.

"The private sector felt the need to establish such universities to give students a chance to study in their own country," Mazen Ansari, the engineer and planner of the Jordanian Girls University College told the Jordan Times.

He also outlined the basic reasons for which the private sector felt the urge to go ahead with the planning and actualisation of such a project.

"We are going through a very hard economic situation and, instead of having our children, especially those who can afford to study abroad, spending all this money outside, we can encourage them to stay here and get a good education. We also feel that we are benefiting our country by turning it into an Arab cultural centre," Ansari added.

"Amman University College has lived up to the expectations of the Jordanian community and the Council of Higher Education," the dean of the university, Eid Dheiyat, told the Jordan Times.

The university, which was financed by the Jordanian United Investment Company, enrolled 1,300 students since it opened in September of this year. "The maximum enrollment, according to the standards and regulations of the Council of Higher Education, is 4,000 students. By next year we expect the number of students enrolling in our college to be around 2,700 students," Dheiyat said.

Asked about the requirements to enroll in the university Dheiyat said that a student should have an average of 60 per cent in his high school (tawjihi) exam. "The average was lowered from 65 per cent after it was reviewed by the Council of Higher Education and members of parliament in light of the recent economic, social and political situation of the country," Dheiyat added.

"I believe that the whole system of university administration is misleading and controversial. I think we should not solely depend on tawjihi grades, we should concentrate on conducting interviews with the students and on offering some kind of entrance exam instead of limiting our criteria to tawjihi grades," Dheiyat said. He also added that he would encourage a full revision of the admittance process with the right government officials in order to give the students a better chance. "In other neighbouring Arab countries and even in the United States and in Europe, some universities admit students with a 50 per cent average, so if they can give students a chance abroad why can't we do that here?" Dheiyat added.

Some students interviewed by the Jordan Times said they believed that a tuition of JD 2,000 per year was a lot.

"I do not think the tuition is high, especially when it is the only source of income for the university. Aside from that, the university, being a private one, does not get any government subsidy, and is not exempt from paying what we call university taxes," Dheiyat explained.

He also added that financial rewards would be granted to those students excelling in their studies. "We will not have any grants, but I believe that financial rewards given to students based on academic excellence will serve as a great motivation and will lead to competition," Dheiyat said.

Dheiyat also added that he did not believe the tuition would go up in the near future, but "nothing is certain especially with the continuous changing economic situation in the country."

Asked about the transfer students (especially those studying abroad), who for financial or other reasons decided to enroll in the university, the dean said that a board of review would be the determining factor in accepting these students and their credit hours at the previous university. "The board of review is the basic academic unit in any university, it will review the students' transcripts at the previous university the student attended, and will decide whether to exempt the student of credits or not," Dheiyat said.

Asked how long the process will take, Dheiyat said it depended on the board of review. "People have to understand that we are a new university and we still have many problems to get over but we will try our hardest to satisfy and meet the demands of our students," he added.

A transferred student, who preferred anonymity, told the Jordan Times that he believed the system was unfair. "By the time the board of review reaches a decision, it would be too late. The transfer student might have taken courses at the university that the board had decided to exempt. This means that this student would have wasted time and money. I believe that transfer students should have their transcript reviewed immediately to avoid such complications," the student said.

The university specialises in languages (Arabic and English), social sciences, law, business administration, management, banking, hospital management, accounting, economics, statistics, insurance, and computer sciences. It will grant the bachelor degree to its graduates; and eventually will consider starting a masters and doctorate programmes in the future.

Another project underhand is the Jordanian Girls University College. "We decided to have an all girls university, to meet the demands of parents who prefer to send their daughters to all girls schools, whether for religious or other reasons. Also some experts feel that girls tend to do better and show less shyness when they are surrounded by females than when they are put in a mixed crowd," Mazen Ansari said.

The Girls University College, financed by the private sector and Saudi benefactors, will cost JD 3.5 million. It will include full lodging and board, and will absorb around, 4,000 students.

The university will specialise in sciences (maths, biology, chemistry and computer), business administration, economics, arts (architecture) and fine arts), nursing, pharmacy, nutrition and general health.

Asked about the tuition, Ansari said nothing had been decided yet but he believed it would be around JD 2,000.

## Brotherhood holds pro-Iraqi rally

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament Deputy Abdul Mun'em Abu Zant said Friday Muslims should attack the interest of the United States and its allies if they launched an aggression against Iraq.

Addressing a public rally organised by the Muslim Brotherhood in Al Nasr district in Amman, following noon prayers, he said the forces surrounding Iraq did not come to defend any state in the region or because of oil, but to protect Israel and destroy the Arab and Islamic force.

Speaking at the rally was also Dr. Ahmad Nofal who said that "while the Muslims were celebrating Prophet Mohammad's birthday the Islamic holy shrines were being surrounded by enemies from everywhere."

Nofal also reviewed the dangers inherent in the Soviet-Jewish immigration to the occupied Arab territories and called for stopping it by all means.

The rally, which was held to voice support for the Palestinian uprising and backing Iraq, was attended by more than 4,000 people.

## Shares go down in AFM

AMMAN (J.T.) — A statistical bulletin issued by the Amman Financial Market (AFM) was a clear indication of a slump in the volume of shares of various companies traded in Jordan in the past month and pointing to the economic difficulties in the country.

The bulletin said that the volume of trading during Sept. 1990 amounted to JD 9,304,254 compared to JD 33,333,147 in September of last year, registering a decline of 72.1 per cent.

The bulletin said that the total shares traded last month were 5,254,107 against 16,009,002 in the same month of last year, a drop of 67.2 per cent.

The industrial sector, however, accounted for the highest shares traded in the past month, totalling JD 4,473,740 in value, followed by the banks and financial companies with a value of JD 3,433,805.

## Queen Noor holds talks with heads of U.N. agencies

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor represented His Majesty King Hussein at the first World Summit for Children, at the United Nations in New York from 29-30th of September. The summit, which was convened by UNICEF to mobilise worldwide attention to the plight of children and to put them and their families on the agenda of the 1990's, was attended by 76 heads of states.

Queen Noor also met with UNICEF director for the Middle East and North Africa to discuss UNICEF's efforts in Jordan and stressed the need to expand UNICEF's programmes to enable Jordan to maintain the significant advances it has made in improving the quality of life for children and to meet the challenges from the present economic situation. The Queen also emphasised the importance of protecting children and ensuring their essential needs in times of conflict.

On Sunday, Queen Noor discussed with Dr. Nafis Sadeq of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) the fund's present and future cooperation efforts with Jordan. UNFPA financed training programmes for women, administered by the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, have provided work and income earning opportunities for women by enabling them to start small businesses, and have contributed to the national economy by increasing national production and decreasing the need for imports.

Queen Noor was also a guest of honour Moinday at a fund-raising luncheon commemorating the Near East Foundation's 75th anniversary. The Queen delivered a speech recognising the foundation's contribution to agricultural and community development programmes in Jordan since 1956 and lauded its "wholesome and constructive approach to North-South cooperation and development assistance."

Talking of the Gulf crisis, Queen Noor said that "the message from many parts of the Arab world during the current crisis in the Gulf is that the political order and economic inequities which were left in our region by the fading colonial powers after World War I simply have not worked satisfactorily" and that "we propose, once this crisis is behind us, to resolve the problems that arise from these regional conditions through our own efforts, by applying the principles of dialogue and genuine security within the framework of a new Arab order that is more humane, equitable and stable."

The Queen added that in Jordan, "we give life to our pan-Arab aspirations and identity by reinvigorating our commitment to an Arab Nation that must live in freedom and self-confidence, and must interact with the world in a spirit of human communion and global fellowship; and we give meaning and hope to the future of our children and their children by providing them with the example of a community that honours an ethical tradition based on the right of every man and woman to live in peace and security."

## 'New visions' — a journey through Palestinian history

By Mariam M. Shahin  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Out of the chaotic tunnel filled intermittently with clouds and hope that the Middle East in general and Jordan in particular has been going through for the last two months comes a ray of light this Thursday with the opening of "new visions," the long awaited exhibition by a group of Palestinian artists from the occupied territories.

"New visions" is a journey through a new chapter of the history of Palestine, as is the phase of historical, political, social and economic reality that gave birth to it — the intifada.

The use of unconventional materials gives a physical sense to the new life that bore the "new visions."

Self reliance — a return to the gifts of nature and its elements and not artificial man-made materials, has allowed the artists Vera Tamari, Nabil Anani, Suleiman Mansur and Tayseer Barakat to give new meaning to the uprising — in this case an uprising of art.

Both old — even ancient and new materials have given the scenery of the land the psyche of a new dimension.

Pottery sherds form landscapes of olive trees, old gates and cacti. Nature and things the occupiers, whoever they were or are, chose not to destroy, characterise the ceramic creations of Vera Tamari. In a mended collection of ceramic plates, a village scene of women weaving, sorting out seeds, carrying food, herding their flock while children play their games, returns the physical material to its earthly origins through the subject matter it is intended to portray.

Nabil Anani chose the ancient tradition of stretching leather on curved wood molds both to paint and to carve out his "new vision" creations.

Simple human figures and decorative designs from Palestine's vast tradition of embroidery, straw weaving, pottery and rugs in the colours of aubergine purple, henna red, and different degrees of brown give Anani's work a sense of "being there."

It is perhaps the work of Suleiman Mansur that startled Jordanian and Palestinian art lovers the most.

Made of straw, clay, lime and put together with animal glue and oils, the "window," the village and pre-monotheistic gods have taken on an unprecedented physical presence.

As if they had risen from the world of which they are a part, untouched by steel, iron, chemicals, plastics and other evils which have polluted our earth, Mansur's work speaks for itself in its abstractness adorned in the warm colours of natural dyes.

The untouched beauty of Palestine is the clay, the straw and the colour of which Mansur's Mona Lisa is made. She shines in the centre of the exhibition speaking only with her eyes, her hands stoically placed in front of her.

While all the artists reflect the soul of the uprising, the psyche of the intifada is the clearest in its analytical form in the works of Gaza born Tayseer Barakat.

His dreamlike floating figures, confined children, and stubbornly resisting figures drawn in natural dyes, ink and lead are a reminder of the drawings and carvings left behind by the ancestors of mankind in caves, on steles and obelisks.

With the darker colours of nature and the many "crowded registers filled with human figures" and confined bodies, Barakat believes that he too is leaving his historical markings to record this phase of his people's history.

The moon, the sun, the heavens and the earth, people tilling "this" soil, burying their dead in "this land or raising their hands to the sky — showing their determination to fulfil their dreams — are the "new visions," of these Palestinian artists.

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## Hurd inches closer

BRITISH Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's remarks on the Middle East on Thursday should be viewed as a constructive and positive change in London's attitudes towards the crisis in the Gulf and the problems in the region generally. Coming as they have, in the aftermath of some uncompromising positions taken by Mrs. Thatcher earlier on, the remarks strengthen our hope that the crisis may be finally moving towards a political settlement, having nearly led to and in fact continues to threaten a devastating military confrontation.

Mr. Hurd, not long ago, was saying that the take-over of Kuwait "made it more difficult (for) a just solution to the Palestine problem and to the needs of the Palestinians." For him to be saying now, however, that a solution to the Palestinian problem should be found urgently is a welcome admission on his part of the West's own shortcoming in understanding the true sources of conflict in the area.

While it is true that the foreign secretary did not directly agree to linking the Gulf crisis to the Palestinian question, he nevertheless took an important step towards making that link, by harshly criticising Israel's intransigence and its repressive measures in the occupied territories against the Palestinians. In his address to the diplomatic and Commonwealth writers' association, Mr. Hurd challenged Israel to be prepared with "fresh thinking" for round table talks with Arabs.

Only a few hours earlier, the Iraqi deputy prime minister, Mr. Taha Yassin Ramadan, was making it clear in Amman that his country too respected international legitimacy and was willing to implement all U.N. resolutions if the other parties and the international community were willing and ready to do the same thing. Mr. Ramadan's statement was unambiguous in the sense that Iraq, in accepting international legitimacy, was prepared for withdrawal from Kuwait, just as Britain, the U.S. and the rest of the world wanted Baghdad to do, albeit only under the conditions of the departure of foreign forces from the Gulf and the linkage with the Palestinian problem.

Secretary Hurd's statement, following presidents Mitterrand and Bush's positive speeches to the U.N. and Iraq's constructive attitudes towards them, should thus be viewed as another step towards dialogue and political solutions to the region's problems. It is a welcome departure from the jingoistic language that we have been consistently subjected to until very recently.

## ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL Ra'i newspaper Friday welcomed a tendency on the part of the world community to find a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis and said that Jordan has been seeking such development from the beginning of the crisis in August. The paper noted that the prime minister of Japan and the president of the Soviet Union have both expressed their belief that the crisis can only be resolved through political means rather than armed conflict, and said that this clearly reflects a consensus that mediation efforts should be doubled to achieve the aspired goals. The paper said that Jordan had supported the Iraqi initiative of Aug. 12 which is the only feasible way out of the deadlock since it entails a linkage between the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question, and calls for a package deal that would ensure peace for all parties in the region. The Gulf crisis and the Palestine question are closely connected since they both belong to the same area and involve parties which have direct links with the Gulf and Arab-Israeli disputes. The U.N. Security Council has issued resolutions concerning the Gulf crisis and the Palestine question, and therefore, this council should address both problems since international legality can not be divided and as long as the world community wish to see justice established, the paper said. The paper said that Jordan which has been exposed to unjust and hostile campaigns for supporting Iraq's peace initiative is now finding support for its ideas designed to end the crisis by peaceful means.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily noted that the Gulf crisis has brought to the fore once again the Palestine question and focused the world public attention on Israel's continued occupation of the Arab land of Palestine. This crisis has also revived the idea of Arab unity, despite the series of set-backs over the past 40 years to achieve that goal and helped end the Iranian-Iraqi hostilities, says Fahd Al Fanek. The writer also points to the fact that the crisis brought to the surface many of the ills which plagued the Arab League, destroyed the Arab Cooperation Council which grouped Iraq, Egypt, Yemen and Jordan and exposed to the masses the real nature of certain Arab regimes which have now lost all credibility for their attitudes with regard to the Gulf issue. He also says that the crisis focused the Arab masses' attention on the Sabbah rulers of Kuwait who have squandered the nation's wealth and disregarded other Arab countries' views concerning national causes. The writer expresses the view that the Gulf crisis will last for a long time, since neither of the two protagonists: the U.S. and Iraq knows in advance the moves of the other side, and can be expected to come with unpredictable actions.

Al Dustour Arabic daily pays tribute to the Jordanian diplomacy spearheaded by His Majesty King Hussein for its success in attracting world leaders' attention to the peace option with regard to the Gulf crisis. The series of meetings and discussions over the past few days in Amman has proved Jordan's sound views and its far sightedness despite the lapse of two months of Iraqi occupation of Kuwait and despite the onslaught of hostile campaigns directed against this country, the paper noted. Jordan's leadership, said the paper, has chosen the right path and has been showing the way to others solely to avert any conflict in the region and to safeguard the Arab Nation's best interests. The paper noted that world leaders and governments have now realised the sound and wise policies of Jordan in handling the Gulf crisis and are falling in line with it.

# The U.S. wakes to a Puritan hangover

WASHINGTON (R) — Like a drinker after a decade-long binge, the United States is awakening to an era of lower expectations, tighter budgets, blander art — and signs of a return to the Puritan values on which the nation was founded. Such staples of the 1980s — often termed the "me-decade" — as insider trading, deficit spending and three-martini lunches are still around, but now they are frowned upon by the federal government.

Where the powerful once made the aptly named Sans Souci restaurant a deal-making hangout, now White House staff take pride in eating at the new status place: "Chez Desk". Sans Souci's doors are long closed, and some of the capital's expensive-account places have scaled back menus to fit the new fiscal climate.

President George Bush himself could qualify as "first Puritan". He may holiday in Maine and vote in Texas, but the president seems a Connecticut Yankee at heart, dedicated to family, public service and a shabby casual wardrobe that has earned scorn from men's fashion magazines.

Gone is the glitter of Reagan years, replaced by an age that could be embodied by David Souter, the scholarly, ascetic — some say eccentric — new Hampshire judge whose confirmation to the Supreme Court seems assured.

The 51-year-old bachelor jurist is opposed by advocates of abortion and homosexual

rights, who say he would turn the court from its 50-year liberal course to curtail individual rights of privacy and speech.

Critics say Souter is stuck in the 18th century, out of touch with modern American life. If this is true, Souter is in line with the puritans whose tenets guided the framers of the U.S. constitution.

The early puritans were fleeing an England that had grown as rich and indulgent as the yuppie-riddled United States of the 1980s, according to Historian Samuel Eliot Morison.

"Business flourished, fortunes were made in foreign trade, speculation and through monopolies that the king conferred on his favorites," Morison wrote of 17th century England in the Oxford History of the American People.

"The newly rich were buying up land, all prices were inflated, fixed incomes bought less and less... it was becoming increasingly difficult for the simple country gentleman or businessman to hang onto his land."

Lust and debauchery, decadent art and music were rejected the original Puritans, and there are signs that they are being rejected in the 1990s, too — least officially.

The question of government funding for controversial art is still a hot issue in Washington, more than year after the homosexual photographs of AIDS victim Robert Mapplethorpe were uncer-

moniously booted from the capital's Corcoran Gallery.

The patently misogynist lyrics of the rap group 2 Live Crew and the allegedly satanic suggestions of the heavy metal band Judas Priest have been attacked in the courts.

And in response to public pressure, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) said it had a duty to society and a right under the constitution to ban indecent broadcasts 24 hours a day, instead of just before 8 p.m.

"The FCC defines indecent material as any programme that is offensive by contemporary community standards, as well as 'sexual or excretory activities or organs'."

The crackdown on lust in art is, in some parts of the U.S., being echoed in everyday life. Authorities in one Connecticut town are arresting adulterous spouses under a so-called "blue law", a vestige of the Puritan code. About a dozen states have such anti-adultery laws,

but they have rarely been enforced.

"I'm fighting for the rights of the American family and marriage," one husband in Colchester, Connecticut, told a newspaper after he had his wife arrested when he found her in bed with another man.

Other pleasures of the flesh are now more closely regulated in the United States.

For example, it is against the law to smoke cigarettes on most domestic airline flights and in

many places of business. Alcohol is still legal, but it comes with restrictions. Hosts can be sued guests who injure themselves after drinking too much. Liquor companies are required to warn pregnant women that drinking can damage fetuses.

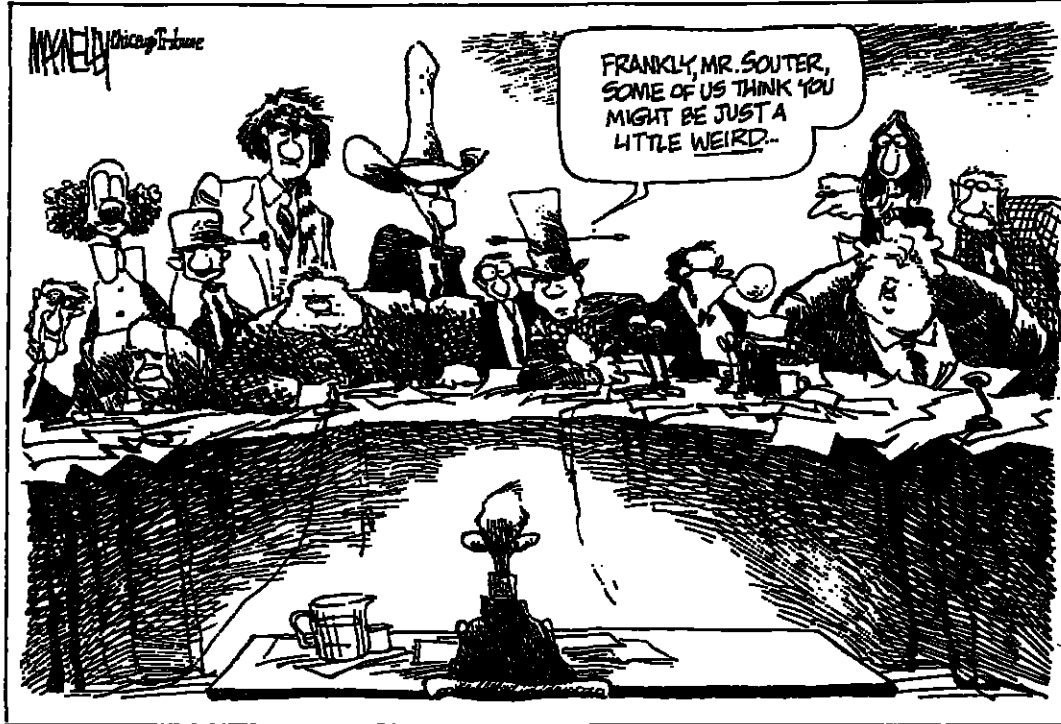
The use of cocaine has always been outlawed, but in the early 1980s it was winked at as the drug of the moment. Now it is being recognised as a killer.

Another killer is the sexually transmitted disease AIDS, which had become so widespread by the end of the 1980s that promiscuous sex seems to have gone out of vogue.

With real crises to contend with, such as war looming in the Gulf and recession threatening at home, the Puritan trend towards caution, frugality and reliance on moral principles has undeniable appeal.

But Puritanism may be on the ascendancy simply because the stars of the materialistic 1980s have left the public stage.

Donald Trump, once the billionaire king of New York real estate, keeps missing payments on an airline that bears his name. Ivan Boesky, arbitrageur extraordinaire, was imprisoned for insider trading. Leona Helmsley, New York's hotel queen, was dethroned in a scandalous tax trial. Imelda Marcos, the shoe-loving widow of the ousted Philippine president, was last seen on her knees in church, thanking God for her acquittal on racketeering charges.



## Good start for Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

interest rate and 30-year repayment period with a ten-year grace period.

So far in his Middle East tour, Kaifu has promised \$400 million to Egypt and \$250 million to Jordan and \$300 million to Turkey, bringing the total to \$950 million out of the \$2 billion package.

Kaifu said Tokyo would decide later who would receive the remaining money. Japan also extended \$500 million to Turkey in the form of a united trade insurance outside the framework of the emergency aid.

The spokesman said Kaifu told Prime Minister Mudar Badran during their meeting that Jordan should continue backing the U.N. embargo on trade with Iraq. "We hope you will continue to positively participate in the economic sanctions," Kaifu told Badran. Badran told Kaifu Jordan's already troubled economy would lose as much as \$1.1 billion this year and an estimated \$2.5 billion in 1991 as a direct result of complying with the sanctions against Iraq, the spokesman said.

In their meetings with Kaifu, both His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and the prime minister said Jordan was complying with sanctions against Iraq. Prince Hassan said Jordan was asking for a special United Nations mission to look into the plight of its economy.

Jordan's economy was further affected by the crisis when Saudi Arabia suddenly stopped oil supplies to the Kingdom after it reduced its import of Iraqi oil to 40 per cent from 83 per cent in order to comply with sanctions.

Badran told reporters Jordan has asked Saudi Arabia to resume oil supplies cut off Sept. 20 after Riyadh demanded immediate payment of \$40 million for previous supplies.

"We have asked Saudi authorities to reopen the oil pipeline to Jordan because this issue concerns the Jordanian people and the steadfastness of this nation and its army," Badran said Thursday after seeing off the Japanese premier at the

airport.

Saudi Arabia said the decision to stop supplies was purely a commercial issue as a result of Jordan's failure to pay earlier arrears. But the move was seen as a political expression of Riyadh's anger at what it perceives as Jordan's pro-Iraq sympathies.

"We sent them \$5 million, which they have received, by now, and we also told them that they could add interest to the 1985 amounts until the matter related to this amount was worked out," Badran said. Amman has said King Fahd of Saudi Arabia had excused Jordan from payment of \$40 million for supplies in the second half of 1985.

According to Badran, Jordan has contacted several oil companies in order to secure new supplies but "we are still waiting for a price list, ways to transport it and issues related to the matter." Jordan is still importing oil from Iraq at a concessionary price of \$16.4 a barrel compared to \$38-\$40 per barrel on the world market until it finds a feasible alternative source.

Badran said Jordan "will undertake several measures to ration energy and this issue was being studied by specialist and officials and will be announced as soon as the study is finalised."

Saudi Arabia had pledged to supply Jordan with 35,000 barrels of oil day — almost half of the Kingdom's daily requirements — as of Sept. 1. But Badran described Jordan's oil reserves as good and said would use them until the problem was resolved.

Saudi Arabia, in retaliation for Jordan's opposition to the foreign forces in the Gulf and pursuit of an Arab solution to the crisis, expelled Jordanian diplomats and stopped giving visas to Jordanians.

In response, Jordan closed its border for trucks heading for the Gulf states. Amman reopened its border after "there were contacts with Turkey, Syria... and we are still using quiet diplomacy to settle the issue," an official said.

## Kaifu visit positive

(Continued from page 1)

242 in its entirety," he said.

Japanese officials said earlier Iraq had been asking for such a meeting since mid-September and Kaifu saw no reason to turn it down.

The talks had not been included in the advance schedule of Kaifu's week-long, five-nation tour of the region. They were announced in Cairo before he flew to Amman on the second leg.

The two countries' foreign ministers had been due to meet in New York last week during the United Nations General

Assembly, but the Iraqi minister, Tariq Aziz, cancelled his visit because the United States refused landing rights for his official plane.

The main focus of Kaifu's talks with His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and Prime Minister Mudar Badran was the economic problems facing Jordan as a result of the Gulf crisis and the Kingdom's adherence to sanctions against Iraq.

Shortly before leaving Amman, Kaifu paid a brief visit to a refugee transit camp in Amman where he met some of the 5,000 Asians living there,

## Legitimacy all over Mideast

(Continued from page 1)

Muslims believe America and its allies are defending legitimacy while Holy Jerusalem and Palestine have been usurped for past 43 years without any calls to apply legitimacy.

In the name of legitimacy America is now defending corrupt rulers simply because of its desires and ambitions for hegemony over the oil wells. We know very well that America is basically aiming at hegemony on Gulf oil wells but we in Iraq and the Arab people and the good leaders of this nation will never accept that Arab fortunes should be for non-Arabs from now on.

"We say Kuwait is Iraq and British colonialists split it from Iraq and this history is new and known to everyone. But if they claim that when U.S. hegemony is lifted the will for a peaceful solution exists in many countries, including Western Europe. Any solution by way of war will not be in the interest of any country in the world, including Western European countries, but they will be the first to lose and the only beneficiary if there is one will be only the United States."

"We also say that American withdrawal from the area, from the land of Nejd and Hijaz, will pave the way for a solution of this problem and all the problems of the region. But the presence of these forces and the interference in Arab affairs cannot lead to any positive outcome for a dispute or peaceful solution."

"We are not concerned with Kuwait," he told journalists. "Kuwait is a province of Iraq and we will cut the leg of anyone who enters it without us wanting him to." "If what this Amnesty international says is true then why is there not this interest in the number of people, women and children slaughtered daily in occupied Palestine and the thousands of our people slaughtered in the past 43 years." "You are not concerned with Kuwait," he told journalists. "Kuwait is a province of Iraq and we will cut the leg of anyone who enters it without us wanting him to."

"We say frankly we prefer war to surrender and putting all the resources of our nation in foreign hands. If other Arab rulers have accepted this then we will not and will the good Arab masses and the evidence is the position of all the Arab peoples even in countries where their rulers have a different position."

"If the same condition is proposed for Israel to withdraw from all Arab territories we will accept the same condition to be proposed on the Iraqi side. And if that condition is not proposed we accept to discuss all these issues at the same table."

## Iraq: U.S. wants control of oil

(Continued from page 1)

to establish common principles and criteria to deal with these issues, and... these principles and criteria (should) be applied to all the issues of the region without ignoring the particularities of each."

A number of countries have shown interest in these ideas, "but America and Britain have sought to suppress any tendency to give them consideration," the speech added, alluding to their rejection of any linkage between demands for Iraq's immediate, unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait and other unresolved issues.

"This indicates bad faith and an unwillingness to deal with the issues of the region on an equitable basis; it even amounts to a confirmation of the insistence of the double standard adopted by the United States and its allies in dealing with the issues of the region and of the world."

America and its allies "are seeking to gain control over the oil reserves in the Gulf so as to have a free hand in manipulating the needs of the world, and especially the needs of the peoples of the Third World, for this important commodity."

Iraq accused the United States and its allies of mobilising "fleets, aircraft and ground forces in the region in a way that has no parallel in contemporary history, thus bringing the entire region, nay the entire world, to the brink of a devastating war."

The Iraqi speech said the United States and its allies are manipulating world opinion to conceal Kuwait's identity as part of Iraq until 1913, when Britain "undertook to sever Kuwait from Iraq."

nation.

"We have decided, to assert that finding peace is a principle for us, not to fire the first shot, but if America starts and it is capable of starting it cannot control the end or the theatre of the battle and it will lose the agents it still has in the region including the Zionist entity, God willing."

"We reject any international solution separate from a solution to the other Arab problems including the Palestinian cause. Any separation between this issue and the Palestinian cause we consider serves the American aggression. I want to make clear that talk of withdrawal from Kuwait governate is being repeated as if what Iraq did on Aug. 2 was simply a mistake which we want to correct or feels it has to correct. Kuwait is an inseparable part of Iraq. If this is linked to our central cause we are ready to begin a dialogue, but if the only purpose of dialogue is to achieve our withdrawal from our land, this is impossible."

"If what this Amnesty international says is true then why is there not this interest in the number of people, women and children slaughtered daily in occupied Palestine and the thousands of our people slaughtered in the past 43 years."

"You are not concerned with Kuwait," he told journalists. "Kuwait is a province of Iraq and we will cut the leg of anyone who enters it without us wanting him to."

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"If the same condition is proposed for Israel to withdraw from all Arab territories we will accept the same condition to be proposed on the Iraqi side. And if that condition is not proposed we accept to discuss all these issues at the same table."

## Moscow anxious to avert war

(Continued from page 1)

efforts to avert a military solution for the Gulf crisis.

"He (Primakov) believes that we have reached the moment of climax when a political solution must be reached to prevent an explosion," said Hourani, who has previously criticised the apparent Soviet support for the American policy in the Gulf.

Primakov's reported views appeared to contrast with the more hardline position declared by Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York last week. Shevardnadze indicated that Moscow would take part in a military operation in the Gulf under United Nations auspices.

There was no information available on the basis of a political compromise that the Soviet Union was hoping to reach, especially that Moscow has been firm in demanding an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait. Soviet embassy officials in Amman said that Primakov was not conveying any specific proposals.

In a dispatch from Baghdad on Friday night, news agencies reported Primakov, who met with President Saddam Hussein had asked for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

In a press conference held in Amman Thursday, Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, reiterated Iraq was not considering a withdrawal from Kuwait.

Ramadan, however, indicated that Baghdad might be more flexible if a solution to the crisis was linked to a settlement of the Palestinian question.

Asked by a journalist if Baghdad was ready to withdraw from Kuwait if Israel pulled out from the occupied territories, Ramadan said: "If the same condition (meaning withdrawal) are imposed on Israel then we shall be ready to accept such conditions."

Although Ramadan repeatedly stressed that Iraq considered Kuwait part of its territory and that it would prefer war than "surrender" or accept American preconditions, he implied that a political solution that will address the Palestinian problem would be welcomed by Baghdad.

For example, Ramadan said, French President Francois Mitterrand's initiative was "the beginning of hope" despite its call for an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait.

The French proposal included steps to reach a comprehensive settlement in the region starting with Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait, Egypt and the deposed Kuwaiti royal family have reportedly criticised the French initiative for falling short of demanding the restoration of the Sabah family to power.

In the view of an Arab official whose country has close relations with Iraq, Saddam believes that a unilateral pullout from Kuwait will only serve the perceived American objective of destroying Iraqi military strength and power.

Judging by accounts of Primakov's meeting with Arafat, Moscow will assure Baghdad that it did not support the destruction of Iraq as a political or military power.

Primakov indicated that the Soviet Union was concerned about the continuity of a strong Iraq, Hourani told the Jordan Times.

Well-informed Arab analysts said Primakov was expected to play a key role in the Soviet diplomacy in the region.

Primakov, a former journalist and a Middle East expert, expressed optimism that he can reach a good working relationship with President Saddam.

"Primakov is optimistic because he knows President Saddam well and he has good personal relationship with him which he hopes will allow him to conduct frank discussions to reach a compromise," Hourani said.

## Saddam receives message

(Continued from page 1)

It said they stressed during the talks "the desire for peace, and expressed their wish to promote bilateral relations."

INA said top Iraqi aides Taha Yassin Ramadan, who is first deputy prime minister, Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz and Information Minister Latif Nusayif Jasim attended the meeting.

Accompanying Primakov were Soviet Deputy Premier Igor Belousov and Vladimir Mardvinov, deputy minister for foreign economic relations.

Primakov arrived from Amman, Thursday after delivering there a letter from Gorbachev to His Majesty King Hussein.

On arrival Primakov said Moscow was "deeply convinced that a political settlement is imperative to avoid slipping towards military confrontation."

Primakov noted his visit followed one to Moscow by Aziz last month, Aziz's only trip outside the region since the crisis began.

"It is necessary to continue the talks held in Moscow by Mr. Aziz," Primakov said.

## Palestinian problem

(Continued from page 1)

Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which has been sympathetic to Iraq, Hurd said: "They have found excuses for the occupation of an Arab land. They have antagonised many of their Arab friends. They have put at risk the progress they had made in gaining international respect."

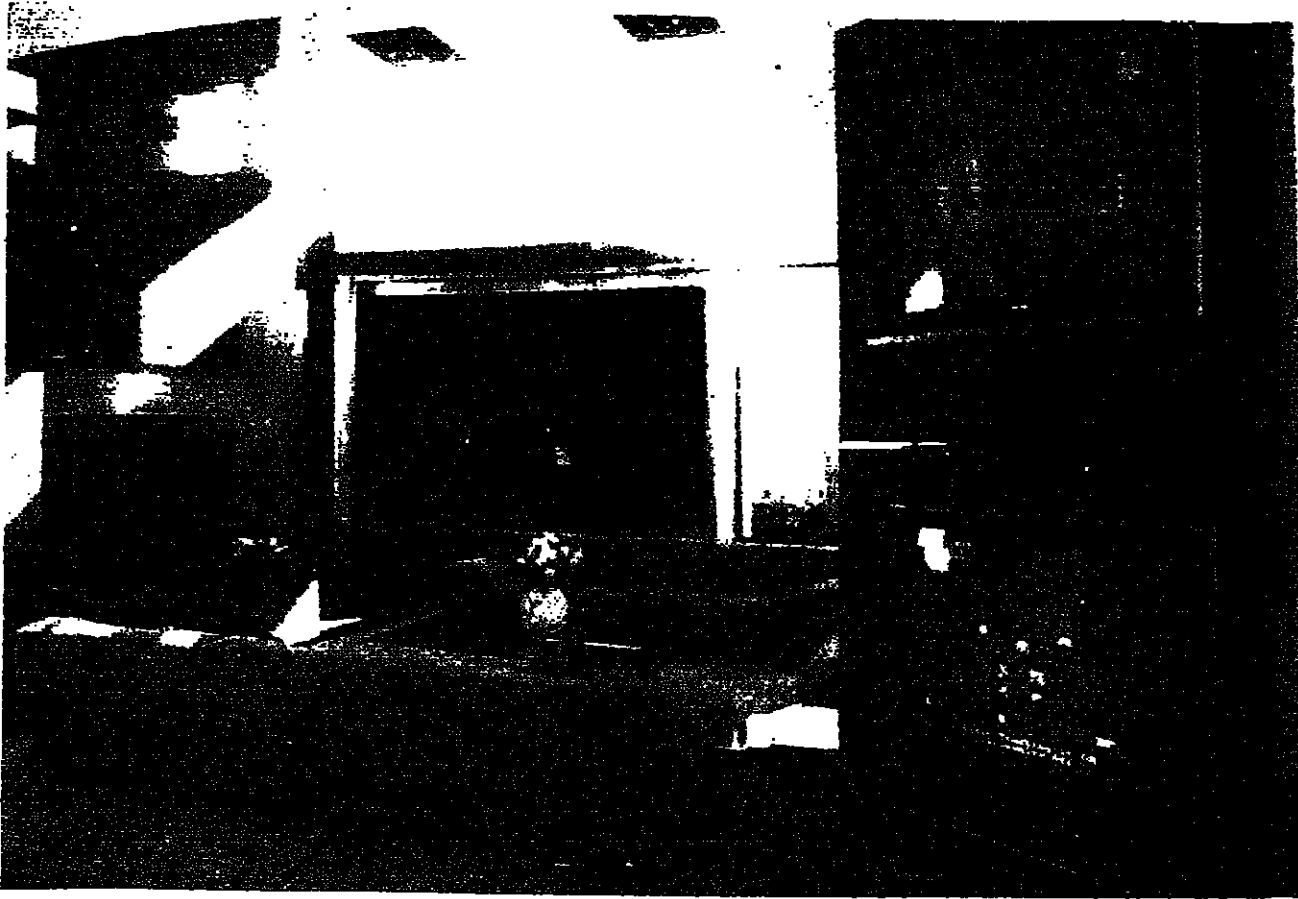
"I do not doubt that they continue to enjoy substantial support from Palestinians and we shall not lose contact with them."

The remarks by Hurd fell in step with a suggestion by Bush last week that an unconditional Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait could lead to "opportunities" for a broad Middle East peace settlement.

Like the United States and France, Britain rejects Iraq's proposals for an explicit linking of the fate of Kuwait with other Middle East disputes.

But they are all dangling vague hints that settlement of the Gulf crisis could be followed by progress on other regional conflicts.





The house of the future: all functions at the push of a button

## The house of the future

By Jacques Bardenean

THE house of the year 2,000 can be visited today. It displays all the applications of new technologies applicable to the home. And it is not surprising that it is surrounded by information technology and business communication at "Infomart" (Paris, La Défense), a centre where over two hundred and fifty specialised firms permanently display the state of the matter.

It is because the house itself is full of automation, remote controls and high-definition screens. Right from the entrance, its video-porter greets the visitor, indicating his presence, and operates the camera which transmits his picture on video monitors, or shows it superimposed in a corner of the television screen.

Under the auspices of the APMF (Association for the

Houses of the Future), some forty firms have joined together to present the systems and complementary products (all of which are already available), likely to improve everyday life, all together and in situation.

The house of the future contains some nine kilometres of co-axial cables and more than a hundred power, telephone or television points. It is linked to cable and satellite networks by its dish antenna and is able to communicate with the whole world.

The house serves its master faithfully, even when he is out, by remote programming and Minitel. From a distance, the master is thus able to give orders: "close the shutters, open them, regulate the heating, keep intruders out and, soon, get the eggs and bacon going on the hot-plate, start the roast or turn on the

no-smell chip-frier."

When he is there, the house obeys his voice. When night falls, he does not need to go round the house to make sure all is well. He just has to think aloud and doors are locked and shutters closed, the fires go out and the temperature falls. The master's orders are carried out quickly and well, but not without good manners. The master's vanity is served with a "yes, master!"

All this meets the quest for security, convenience, time and, of course, comfort, such as that provided by the "shower temple" and its encircling jets of water.

This house looks ahead to a possible way of life when man, freed from the constraints of certain domestic tasks, would be able to cultivate his secret garden, or justify his "second cheque", that is to say a second

job, or even stay at home to work, a tempting prospect, thanks to telecommuting which already makes it possible.

But one may also wonder about the changes in man's relations with his environment and on his behaviour, which these new techniques will bring about.

His continuous submission to the macro-systems of energy production, communication, transport, etc., a consequence of the giant infrastructure inherent in modern societies, mastered by no-one, could go against his ethic of freedom.

Quantitative growth risks dulling sensitive perception. German and French sociologists thus rightly met in Paris, in early February, in order to speak about the "Technologies of Everyday Life" and their consequences — L'Actualité en France.

## Fake medicines flood Third World

A mere 40 per cent of pharmaceuticals manufactured by firms in the Federal Republic of Germany for export to the Third World are found to be positive and sensible by German development policy action groups.

Six out of 10 are classified as negative, according to the report's findings, details of which were released in Frankfurt by the Biko, a caucus of roughly 200 development aid groups.

Two doctors spent five years analysing nearly 1,300 drugs exported by 32 firms to 26 Third World countries, said one of the two, Hermann Schulte-Sasse, a Bremen pharmacologist and specialist

in internal medicine.

Only one drug in eight was found to comply with WHO requirements of indispensable medicines. Over 400 of the 1,300 drugs were not marketed in Germany.

Manufacturers had been found to make full use of the leeway provided by inadequate pharmaceutical regulations in the countries concerned.

A spokesman for the Pharmaceutical Industry Association said in Frankfurt that he expected his association would be able to disprove the allegations made in the report "one after another." The claims made were nothing new. The WHO list of essen-

tial drugs was by definition not applicable to all countries. To use it as the sole yardstick was most dangerous both medically and therapeutically.

In comparison with 1985, Schulte-Sasse said, a number of pharmaceutical companies had responded to criticism of the products they exported to the Third World.

Five years ago the authors of the report found only 34 per cent of the drugs tested to be beneficial and 66 per cent to have negative properties.

The improvement was largely due to problematic long-established drugs having been withdrawn from developing countries. There had

yet to be an instance of a manufacturer withdrawing a drug that had been criticised but was selling well.

The majority of drugs poorly rated were said to be pointless combinations. The figures tallied with the findings of a Swiss report.

Some of these combination drugs had either never been marketed in Germany or had been banned in the Federal Republic for some time.

Five per cent, including drugs prescribed to reduce blood sugar or as painkillers, were felt to present serious risks. A further 10 per cent were found to have no effect at all — (DPA)

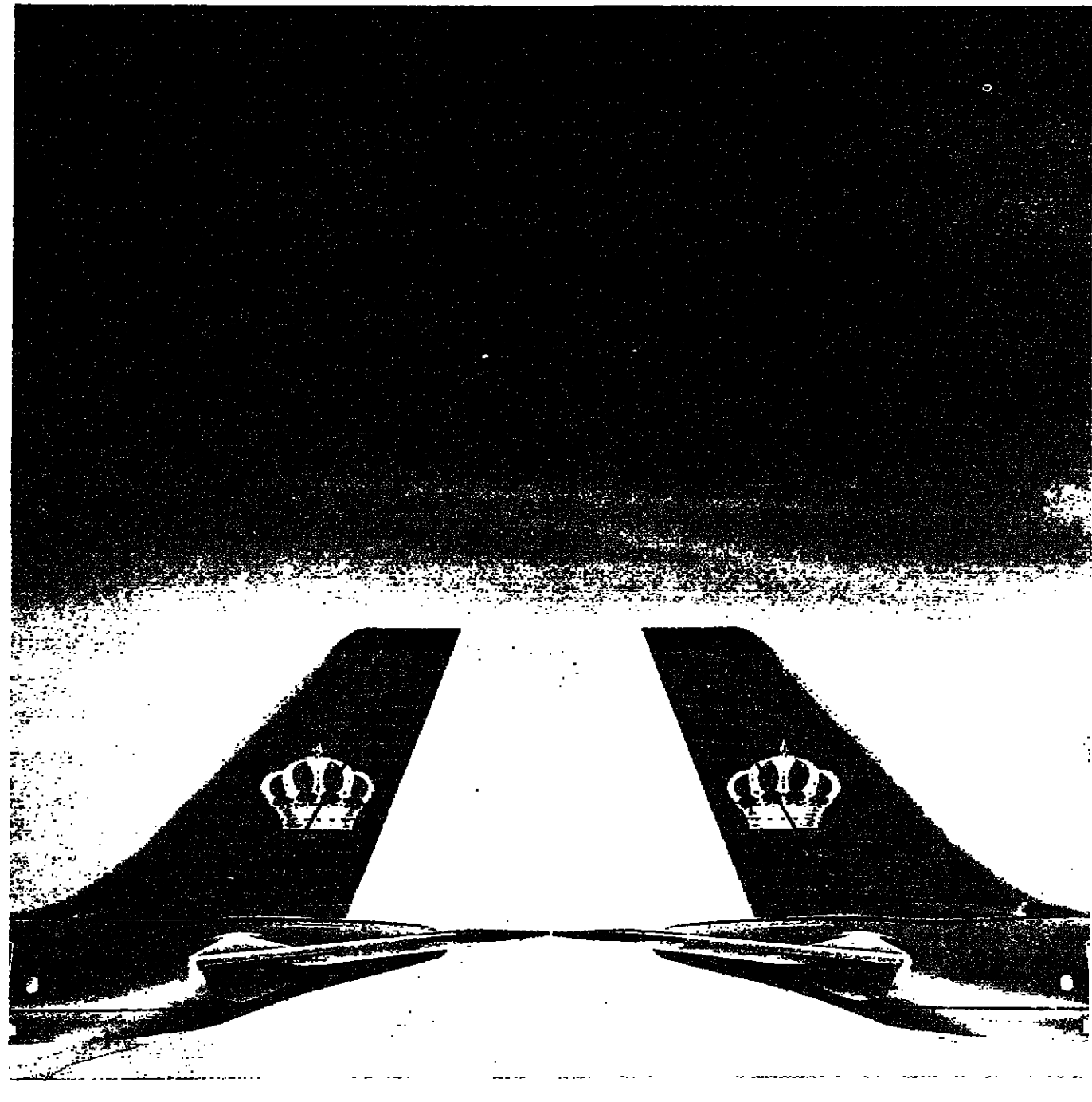
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## Weimer seeks revival as centre of German culture

By Paul Mindus

WEIMAR, Germany — Weimar, a crumbling and polluted relic of its former glory as a centre of German culture and politics, is a town that sees its future in its past.

Acrid smoke from coal fires fills the air, gnawing away at statues of former residents such as Goethe and Schiller, adding to the air of decay in one of Germany's great cultural centres.

"East" German industry may collapse after the two Germanys merged on Oct. 3, but Weimar hopes to turn its 400-years heritage in art, music, literature and architecture — from Bach to the Bauhaus — into a tourist attraction and arts centre.

The town of 63,000, next to the Thuringian forest 320 km south of Berlin, became part of Germany's political history in 1919 when the national assembly adopted a constitution that became known as the Weimar Republic, which lasted until Hitler came to power in 1933.

"We think the future of Weimar is its history. The buildings may have a bad face now, but that can be fixed," said Bernd Mende, deputy director

of Weimar's council on historic sites, set up in June.

"We're really just at the beginning," said Hubert Amft, a book editor who became Weimar's director of tourism in August.

Weimar already plans a major arts festival next May or June with help from the unified German government, and a trade union guesthouse will be turned into a luxury 600-room private hotel by the end of 1991, Amft said.

"One problem is that we can't change heritage of 40 years of Communist rule in a short time," he added.

The town has only a handful of hotels, with threadbare but clean rooms, and few restaurants. Telephone lines are bad and streets are in disrepair. Near the massive crumbling castle, park benches are just wooden planks on cinder blocks.

But Weimar still has a romantic air, with tree-lined squares and outdoor markets. New "West" German stores filled with colourful, stylish clothes have opened on streets next to the more drab eastern shops.

The town has impressive credentials to back its claim as "the capital of German mind".

The capital of a Duchy since 1547, it was home to Lucas Cranach, the 16th century German renaissance painter whose huge canvases are in the state art museum here. Johann Sebastian Bach was organist in the town in the early 1700s.

Germany's best-known authors, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe and Friedrich Schiller, worked and lived in Weimar in the late 1700s and early 1800s. Their homes, badly damaged by bombs near the end of World War Two, have been restored.

Composers Franz Liszt and Richard Strauss worked here in the late 19th century. Weimar attracted architects and painters as a new fine arts centre in the early 1900s. Painters created a style known as the Weimar School.

After World War One, the Walter Gropius Bauhaus school for art and architecture opened in Weimar with the painters Feininger, Klee and Kandinsky before moving to Berlin.

With so much German culture and history, Weimar drew three million tourists in 1989, making it "East" Germany's third largest tourist attraction after Berlin and Dresden.

But unification with "West" Germany opens the way for large scale western investment in an international tourist centre.

The July 1 conversion to the "West" German mark has given the town a burst of free market economic activity. Newly-bought used western cars and motorcycles fill the streets. Fruit and vegetables are plentiful in the main outdoor market.

Weimar is full of young people, many attending the Franz Liszt music school or the architecture school, and town leaders know they must act quickly to improve living conditions for residents.

But it may be years until homes in Weimar are heated with a less polluting fuel than brown coal.

"The infrastructure of Weimar must be made better first to restore and renovate the city for the people who live here. This must parallel the work on the cultural centre," said Lothar Pusch, a technical director at the Goethe House Museum.

As smoke filled the air outside the Liszt school on a chilly afternoon, a music student hurrying to classes paused to explain: "Yes, there's still no central heating, so everyone uses coal. But it will get better."

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## China lets few canoeing golds slip away at Asian Games

PEKING (AP) — China turned out Friday to be weaker in canoeing than rowing at the Asian Games. But that just meant not weeping all 13 gold medals.

South Korea won three, and Chun In-Shik had a hand in all of them. Park Cha-Keun joined him for two of the golds.

Meanwhile, South Korean archers broke yet another world record and won both the men's and women's team gold medals. Pakistan won the men's field hockey gold medal by edging India 3-2 in the final game, and Indonesia won the mixed doubles tennis title.

China's 13 early golds Friday — 10 in canoeing, two in diving team competition and one in men's singles tennis — gave it a total of 173, or 89 per cent of those decided so far. South Korea had second place virtually locked up with 50.

After a one-day gold drought, Japan won one Friday and had 38 in all. Tennis pro Akiko Kijimuta beat China's Chen Li 6-3, 6-3 in the women's singles final.

With two golds each in volleyball and handball to be decided Friday night, China led in overall medals with 323, South Korea and Japan had 170 each and North Korea 80, including 12 golds.

Pakistan had four golds. Indonesia, Qatar and Iran each had three, and Thailand and Malaysia each had two.

On Sept. 26, the Chinese had swept all 14 rowing medals. Chun and Park stopped them in

canoeing Friday by winning the men's 1,000 metre kayak singles and pairs and the 500-metre pairs.

The day's only really close race came in the men's 500-metre kayak singles, where China's Ma Fuliang beat South Korea's Lee Yong-Chul by only 0.35 seconds. 1 minute, 48.38 seconds to 1:48.73.

In archery, Yang Chang-Hoon, the men's individual winner on Thursday, joined fellow South Koreans Kim Sun-Bin and Park Jae-Pyo for a total of 1,005, breaking the world record of 999 set by a Soviet team last year.

They already had broken that record in the morning's semifinals with a 1,004.

Japan was second with 949 and Taiwan third with 946. On Thursday, South Korea's Kim Soo-Nyung had broken her own world record of 343 with a 346 in the semifinals, but then slipped to 337 in the finals. Teammate Lee Jang-Mi won the gold with 339.

In Friday's team competition, Kim, Lee and Eun-Kyung combined for a 1,003, beating the 970 of Taiwan and 960 of North Korea. Their total fell short of South Korea's world record of 1,010, which they had tied in the morning's semifinals.

Officials said Kim Soo-Nyung and Yang Chang-Hoon both had beaten world records for their totals for one full round over four days of competition.

In diving, China's Gao Min, the women's one-metre spring-

board gold medalist, led in qualifying for the three-metre springboard event with 581.88 points. Teammate Zhang Yuping was second with 534.27 and Japan's Yuki Motobuchi third with 490.26.

Gao's and Zhang's scores, combined with earlier Chinese qualifying scores in the one-metre and platform events, helped China win the women's team gold with a 3,056.40 total to 2,525.31 for Japan and 2,325.66 for Japan.

China also won the men's team title with 4,099.05 to 3,174.03 for Japan and 3,160.74 for North Korea. China's Tan Liangde, the one-metre gold medalist, led qualifying for the three-metre springboard with 736.71 points, followed by Li Deliang with 704.49 and North Korea's Cho Gum San with 616.95.

The three-metre springboard finals are scheduled Saturday.

The men's tennis final was all-Chinese. Fan Bing struggled to a 1-6, 7-6 (7-4), 6-1 victory over Zhang Jihua.

In mixed doubles, Yayuk Basuki and Suharyadi of Indonesia beat South Korea's Kim Il-Soon and Yoo Jin-Sun 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.

Spearheaded by its superb forward line, Pakistan dominated archival India 3-2 at the Asian Games Friday, adding another chapter to a classic confrontation that began four decades ago.

Pakistan's victory earned it the games' hockey gold, while India took the silver and Malaysia the bronze. The Pakistanis won six and lost none in competition

among seven Asian teams.

India struck first, scoring off a penalty corner in the 12th minute of the first half. But six minutes later the game was tied as Pakistan's speedy forwards penetrated the Indian defence and M. Qamar Ibrahim scored.

With centre forward Shahbaz Ahmad frequently leading the charge, the Pakistan team slipped into Indian territory again and again.

Often it employed a five-man attack line, while Indian forwards who penetrated their opponents' defence often found themselves without support.

In a separate development, Qatari Sprinter Talal Mansoor has been named Asia's top athlete for 1990 and the outstanding athlete of the Asian Games in a poll of sportswriters.

Chinese cyclist Zhou Lingmen, who set a world record in the one-kilometre time trial, the first world record set in the current games, was chosen as the year's top Asian woman athlete.

The awards were announced Friday by the Asian Sports Press Association based on a poll of 3,600 sports journalists.

Mansoor, Asia's fastest man, won the 100 metres in 10.30 seconds, tying the games' record he set when he won in the last games in Seoul four years ago.

He received 2,216 votes to 1,717 for Chinese swimmer Shen Jianqiang, who won five gold medals in the 16-day games, which end Sunday. Zhou had 1,820 votes.

## Lendl, Edberg to clash at Australian indoor semis

SYDNEY (R) — Ivan Lendl earned the chance Friday to make Stefan Edberg pay for ruining his Wimbledon dream this year, setting up a semifinal clash with the world number one at the Australian indoor tournament.

Third seed Lendl, bidding for his fourth Australian indoor title in six years, beat Sweden's Peter Lundgren 6-2 7-6 with a typically powerful baseline performance. Edberg played sublime tennis in the first set against ninth seed David Wheaton of the United States but was given a welcome workout in the second before also winning 6-2 7-6.

Edberg and Lendl, playing doubles together for the first time here, expect Saturday's semifinal to be more even than the Wimbledon semifinal because of Lendl's liking for the artificial hardcourt surface.

In July the Swede destroyed Lendl's all-or-nothing bid for the one Grand Slam title to elude him, before beating Boris Becker in the final.

"It's going to be tough for both of us," said Edberg. "To beat Ivan on this surface you've got to serve really well, that's the key. It could be a really good match."

Lendl agreed. "If both players are at their best, it's going to be a tremendous match," he said. "I haven't played Stefan on this surface for quite some while and I'm looking forward to it."

"I need to play Boris and Stefan as much as I can so I can keep up with them and see what my weaknesses are so I am prepared for it at the Grand Slams." Edberg was all but untouchable in the first set against Wheaton, playing a brand of unruffled, graceful tennis which no one else on the tour can match.

Wheaton went for broke in the second set and earned a break in the second game. He held it until 4-2 when Edberg emerged from a game of four deuces to break

back. The tie break was a formally once Edberg had gained a 5-1 lead.

Lundgren, who had a 1-1 record with Lendl before this match, is a hot and cold player. In the first set he was tepid, losing his opening service game and rarely sighting Lendl's bullets.

Australia's Todd Woodbridge capped a fine two months in which he has slashed his ranking from 135 to under 50, by beating Grant Connell of Canada 7-6 2-6 6-1.

Woodbridge, who reached the final of the New Haven tournament in August and won the U.S. Open mixed doubles title with Liz Smylie, looks and plays like a slighter, less experienced version of Edberg and is probably the tour's most improved player over the past year.

Boris Becker will rely on Australian coach Bob Brett to unlock the mysteries of his semifinal opponent after ousting American Richey Reneberg 6-4 6-4 at the Australian indoor tournament.

The German second seed admitted he knew very little about Woodbridge, a 19-year-old from the Sydney surfing suburb of Cronulla who rode into the last four on a wave of hometown support and a rapidly improving all-round game.

"I don't know very much about him to be honest, I'll ask Bob to tell me," said Becker, who did not bother to watch Woodbridge beat Canada's Connell. "It's a little bit more difficult when I don't know how they play."

This victory was fairly routine for Becker who was well in control throughout a baseline game

Reneberg, broken in the first game of the match, bravely broke back in the next. But at 4-4 Becker obviously decided enough was enough and broke him to 15 set up a set-winning position.

## Navratilova moves into Essen women's semifinals

ESSEN, GERMANY (AP) — Martina Navratilova defeated Anke Huber of Germany 6-2, 6-2, to advance to the semifinals of an international tennis tournament in Essen.

Navratilova, the second-ranked women's player in the world, had little trouble proving she still plays top flight tennis, easily controlling the match against Huber, who at 15 is less than half her age.

A naturalised U.S. citizen born in Czechoslovakia, Navratilova will turn 34 on Oct. 18.

In the only other singles match of the day, Arantxa Sanchez of Spain fought a three-set battle against Katerina Maleeva of Bulgaria to win 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

The tournament has proven a disappointment for German fans who expected to see their idol and world no. 1 women's player, Steffi Graf, take part.

Graf, coming off a win in Leipzig last week, is suffering from a



Martina Navratilova

cold and was forced to pull out of the Essen event at the last minute.

Yugoslav star Monica Seles who is recovering from an injury was also forced to withdraw. Prize money in the tournament, called the Nokia Masters, is \$500,000.

## EUROPEAN SOCCER

### AC Milan meets Bruges as Aston Villa travels to Italy

LONDON (R) — Champions AC Milan begin the defence of their title against Club Brugge in the second round of the European Cup, while England's Aston Villa take on Milan's city rivals Internazionale in the UEFA Cup.

Villa will be the first English club to play a competitive match against an Italian side since the 1985 Heysel Stadium disaster in which 39 people, mostly Juventus fans, were killed by rioting Liverpool supporters.

Milan, who as cup holders received a first round bye, are at home to the Belgians in the first leg on Oct. 24. Spanish champions Real Madrid were given a reasonably comfortable tie in the second round draw, made in Zurich on Friday, meeting Austrian Swarovski Tirol, with the first leg at home.

Manchester United, hoping for a glamorous tie against a top European side, were drawn against the fourth division Welsh side Wrexham in an all-British Cup Winners' Cup pairing.

Real Madrid, knocked out last year in the second round of the European Cup they so desperately crave, are confident of a better showing this season.

Real's President Ramon Mendoza said: "I am always optimistic that this could be our year and after our record six European Cup wins we will, after a long time, grab the trophy this season." "Of course the opposition today is very fierce and in my view any one of half a dozen clubs could be in the running," he added. Real last won the cup in 1966.

Italy's other European Cup representatives, league champions Napoli were drawn at home

in the first leg against Spartak Moscow, who beat Czechoslovakia's Sparta Prague 4-0 on aggregate in the first round.

French champions Marseille, whose club president brought in World Cup-winning coach Franz Beckenbauer in his quest for the European Cup, meet Lech Poznan, with the first leg in Poland.

Bayern Munich, four times winner of the European Cup who made hard work of their first round tie against Cypriot Apollon Nicosia, play Bulgarians CFKA Sredet Sofia in Germany in the first leg.

Dynamo Dresden, united Germany's other champions, were drawn against Malmö of Sweden.

Porto, European Cup winners in 1987, play Dinamo Bucharest of Romania while Scottish champions Glasgow Rangers meet Red Star Belgrade and travel to Yugoslavia for the first leg.

Red Star club official Vukotic Bosko said: "We are going to find Rangers a different proposition to the Swiss team grasshopper. I do not think we will be as lucky against the Scots as they play a different style of football. We could be in for two hard matches."

Italy's other two European trophy holders, Sampdoria and Juventus, who are among a record eight Italian clubs in the three European competitions, both received the advantage of playing second leg matches on Nov. 7 at home.

UEFA Cup winners Juventus visit Austria Vienna in the Cup Winners' Cup while Sampdoria, seeking to win the trophy for a second successive year, travel to Olympiakos in Greece.

## Wright seeks more goals to secure England place

LONDON (R) — England trio Peter Beardsley, Paul Gascoigne and David Platt go into first division action Saturday looking to confirm their international places and keep the likes of Neil Webb, Steve Bull and newcomer Ian Wright on the sidelines.

Platt, impressive in Aston Villa's successful midweek European excursion to Czechoslovakia, expects to overcome an ankle injury and face Sunderland at Villa Park.

He had his right ankle heavily strapped when the team returned from their 2-1 UEFA Cup win over Banik Ostrava Wednesday.

But he said: "I have had trouble before with the same ankle this season but the club physio has told me that the problem will clear up if I rest it over the next 24 hours."

Villa, needing a win to push themselves up among the first division pacemakers, will also be boosted by their former manager Graham Taylor's inclusion of their goalkeeper Nigel Spink among the stand-by players for England's European Championship tie with Poland on Oct. 17.

Crystal Palace's uncapped striker Wright, hoping to oust

Steve Bull of second division Wolverhampton Wanderers from the England side, will be anxious to add to his tally of three league goals and a League Cup hat-trick.

Wright's temperament, as well as his talent, could be tested when unbeaten Palace entertain Leeds, whose good start to life back in the top flight has been based on solid teamwork and a sound defence which has conceded seven goals in seven games.

England manager Taylor said after naming Wright in his squad: "He is an instinctive, exciting player and has got a lot of pace. We saw him go on as substitute in the F.A. Cup Final and turn the game." He scored two goals in the 3-3 draw against Manchester United.

Wright, who only turned professional at 21 five years ago, said: "I've thanked God a hundred times since I found out (I'd been called up). I've always wanted the chance to play for England ever since I started playing for Palace."

"This is where the hard work starts. I've got to maintain my form, rise to that challenge. I've always been confident of scoring goals," he added.

## Mutt'n'Jeff



## Andy Capp



## Peanuts



## GOREN BRIDGE

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MONEY IN THE BANK

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

9

Q 63

K 10 9 8 6 4 2

WEST EAST

\* Void \* Q J 10 8 6 5 3 2

\* 7 5 2 \* Void

\* A Q 7 3 \* J 5

\* Q 10 7 6 4 3 \* J 5 2

SOUTH

\* A K 7 4

\* A K J 10 9 8 4

\* Void

\* A K

The bidding:

South West North East

2 Pass 2 NT Pass

3 Pass 4 Pass

6 Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Two of

It is all too easy to be lulled into a false sense of complacency when you first see a bridge hand. Consider this chestnut. If you reach six hearts, your first reaction when dummy appears is that you have missed a laydown grand slam. But be careful about how you tackle the play.

North must shoulder the blame for missing the excellent grand slam. With three trumps to an honor, a singleton and a king, to bid only four hearts is pusillanimous—the

hand is clearly worth a jump over game to the five-level, after which we can't imagine South stopping short of seven hearts.

The play seems simple enough. Win the heart in hand, cash the ace of spades and ruff a couple of spades in dummy, making all the tricks. Unfortunately, that is not what happens. The one-in-a-million 8-0 spade break, combined with the 3-0 trump split, means you are going to be defeated as the cards lie. West can ruff the ace of spades and lead his remaining trump, and you are left with only one trump on the table to take care of your two losing spades.

As usual, once you realize the contract might be in jeopardy, however slight, the antidote is easy to find. At trick two, lead a low spade from hand, surrendering a trick you might not have to lose. That enables you to win any return and ruff your remaining spade loser, with the queen if necessary, to ensure 12 tricks.

This is an extreme example. However, there are many situations that crop up at the table where you can guarantee your contract by sacrificing a meaningless overtrick. That's a small premium to pay for a game or slam.

## HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY OCTOBER 6, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You have all sorts of opportunities to see things in their most comprehensive light so that whatever it is that you are doing will be broad in its scope and generous in its applications.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You can wind up some practical matters as the day starts but then you will be able to do nothing that can make anyone feel you are evading an obligation.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Complete some new money arrangement early in the day, then you will be able to attend to an outside matter in a very necessary conscientious manner.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Get that invoice you have put off paying behind you, then you are free to delve into some new inspiration so it can work in your everyday life.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Follow down to earth suggestions of a no nonsense friend, then you will need to use care not to get into expensive amusements with a companion.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) You see rightaway after breakfast to solve an outside issue, after which try to steer clear of an argument between an outsider and a family member.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Be alert to some new helpful condition in the morning for then

you will need to spend time arranging new ways to top off unnecessary expenses.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Arrange some oncoming event that can bring you much pleasure, then you can put efforts into finding necessary tools to perfect a special talent.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Think out ways to put a little extra zip and zap into your residence, then you will need to consider how to attend to a pressuring outside situation.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Back an associate early in a plan for expansion, then you will be able to arrange income from a project more in line with more modern efficiency.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Let mate know you understand that persons practical affairs by aiding in them early, then you would be wise to economize so you have more extra.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Private conversation with attachment can bring you much advice you need for a personal issue after which avoid a confrontation with a highly-placed person.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Join a good friend in an outside jaunt for some important purpose then it will be advised to avoid going along with a friend to some outside event.

## THE BETTER HALF.

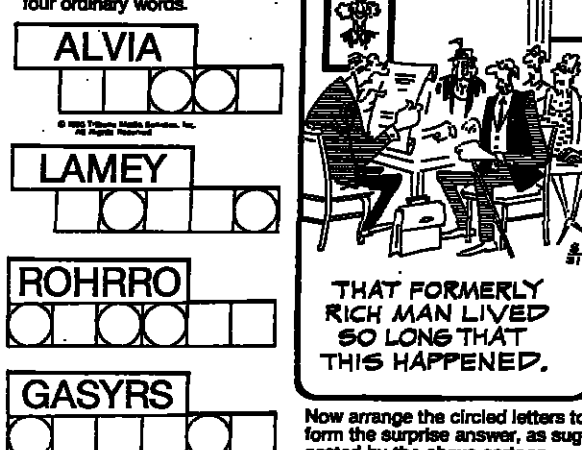
By Harris



"I do so help with the cleaning! I keep the dust off this chair!"

## JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

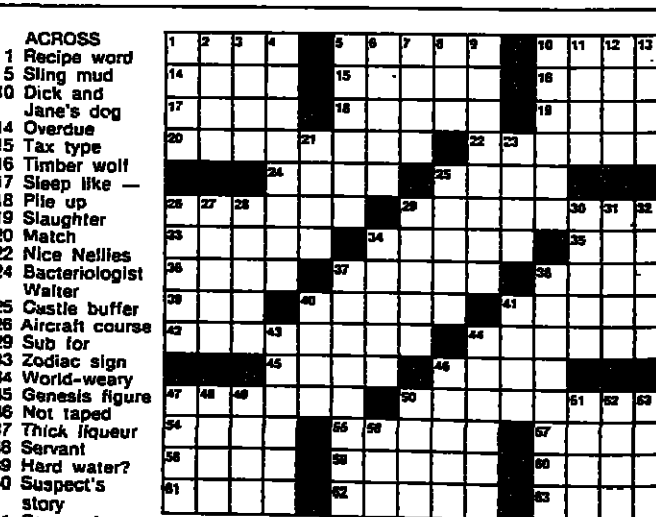
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer: HIS TURNED

Yesterday's Jumbles: PATIO COACH TURKEY SEPTIC  
Answer: Saving one's face is often a matter of keeping --- PART OF IT SHUT

## THE Daily Crossword by I. Miller



- 1 Across: Riddle word  
2 Down: Sling mud  
3 Across: Dick and Jane's dog  
4 Down: Tax type  
5 Across: Timber wolf  
6 Down: Sleep like  
7 Across: Pile up  
8 Down: Slaughter  
9 Across: Match  
10 Down: Nice Nellies  
11 Across: Bacteriologist  
12 Down: Waiter  
13 Across: Castle buffer  
14 Down: Aircraft course  
15 Across: Sub for  
16 Down: Zodiac sign  
17 Across: World-weary  
18 Down: Genesis figure  
19 Across: Not tapped  
20 Down: Thick liqueur  
21 Across: Hard water?  
22 Down: Suspect's story  
23 Across: Gave a hoot  
24 Down: Info stockpile  
25 Across: Bow  
26 Down: Defect  
27 Across: Asian expanse  
28 Down: At city  
29 Across: Knight's work  
30 Down: "My Name is —"  
31 Across: Nome home  
32 Down: Song  
33 Across: Branch  
34 Down: Suffragist  
35 Across: Anthony  
36 Down: Gossip  
37 Across: Personal: pref.  
38 Down: Capp's Lena  
39 Across: for one  
40 Down: Potato buds  
41 Across: 30 Core  
42 Down: 31 Vines  
43 Across: A Roosevelt  
44 Down: 34 Peppy  
45 Across: 37 Provincial  
46 Down: 38 Make  
47 Across: 39 saucerbraten  
48 Down: 40 Rose's love  
49 Across: 41 Castro's land  
50 Down: 42 Hands-on-hips  
51 Across: 43 Cigar  
52 Down: 44 React to a  
53 Across: 45 Helmet watch  
54 Down: 46 artist  
55 Across: 47 Uninter-  
56 Down: 48 esting  
57 Across: 49 Branches  
58 Down: 50 Other  
59 Across: 51 Silver  
60 Down: 52 Vex  
61 Across: 53 Chatters  
62 Down: 54 Sandpaper  
63 Across: 55 Lombardo



## Congress rejects Bush budget reduction scheme

WASHINGTON (R) — The House of Representatives threw out a controversial budget resolution early Friday in a major setback for President George Bush, raising the prospect of a government shutdown for lack of funding.

The 435-member House voted 179 to 254 against the outlines of a belt-tightening deficit reduction plan that Bush had said was critical to avoid recession. Two members abstained.

Opponents of the plan ranged from liberal Democrats, wanting larger cuts in military spending and higher taxes on the rich to conservative Republicans who opposed any tax hikes.

The resolution, aimed at cutting the U.S. budget deficit by \$500 billion over the next five years, came before Congress at a sensitive time, only a month before the entire House of Representatives faces reelection on Nov. 6.

The package included politically painful measures such as tax increases on beer, wine, liquor, cigarettes and petrol and cuts in health care for the elderly.

Rank-and-file members rebelled despite intense lobbying by Bush and the congressional leadership.

The defeat of the budget resolution threatened to shut down government operations starting this weekend, when temporary funding authority expires.

One possible way out would be to make minor changes in the proposed budget agreement and bring it back for a second vote. But congressional leaders said that would not happen Friday.

To keep the government funded, both houses of Congress must pass a stopgap spending measure by midnight Friday.

"I'm prepared to take the flack on having our government shut down, but having us come back and send a budget to the president that is good for this nation," said representative James Traficant, a Democrat.

Bush has told Congress that without a vote in favour of the budget resolution he would veto any measure to carry on funding the government. This opens the door to possible disruptions in essential services, ranging from air traffic control to meat inspection.

The vote was the first test of a compromise painstakingly crafted during five months of negotiations.

But House conservatives, led by Georgia representative Newt Gingrich, the second-ranking Republican, fought the plan on the ground that higher taxes would be damaging to the economy, already on the brink of recession.

Faced with elections next month, the conservatives feel betrayed by Bush, who made a no-new-tax pledge the centerpiece of his 1988 campaign for the presidency.

House Budget Committee Chairman Leon Panetta, a Democrat, had called Friday's defeated resolution "an essential first step in the budget process."

Bush warned in a televised speech aimed at rallying Congress Tuesday "if we fail to enact this agreement, our economy will falter. Markets may tumble. And recession will follow."

## Prague raises petrol prices

PRAGUE (R) — The Czechoslovak government has begun a form of petrol rationing to curb consumption, raising prices more than 30 per cent because of the Gulf crisis and reduced Soviet oil supplies.

From Saturday to the end of the month, the price of 92 octane fuel will go up to 16 crowns (\$1.02) a litre, and 96 octane to 18 crowns (\$1.15). Economy Minister Vladimir Dlouhy announced on television Thursday.

Diesel fuel will also rise by a similar amount. Dlouhy said motorists would be able to buy 25 litres at the current price but anything bought above that would cost the new price.

Dlouhy said the price rise was intended to be prohibitive to reduce consumption and the government would decide later whether it would continue beyond the end of October.

Motorists formed long queues at petrol stations Thursday and Friday as word spread that the government was about to introduce drastic measures to counter the oil shortage.

President Vaclav Havel is to ask Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev for a meeting to discuss recent severe cutbacks in Soviet oil supplies on which Czechoslovakia heavily depends, the state news agency CTK reported Thursday.

## Gulf crisis cripples many economies

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Saddam Hussein's takeover of Kuwait has sent economic shockwaves around the globe, doubling oil prices, paralysing stock markets, undermining business confidence and leaving countries in Eastern Europe and Asia in dire straits.

But it has brought windfalls for oil-producing countries who will make billions of extra dollars this year as prices climb. Since Iraq's invasion, they have gone from \$16 a barrel to around \$40.

Some analysts believe prices could pass the \$65 mark before long, fuelling inflation and raising the spectre of recession and higher interest rates.

Japan's finance minister, Ryutaro Hashimoto, declared Wednesday in Washington: "The Gulf crisis is not only disrupting world peace and security, it's also casting a dark shadow over the prospects for world economic development and prosperity."

The industrialised world was better prepared to cope with this crisis than the oil shocks of 1973 and 1979, despite the inflationary pressures. But the debt-ridden Third World faces a grim time.

The Financial Times, London's respected business daily, noted that the Iraqi invasion "has put on hold hopes that the 1990s might usher in a new world order, founded in the eclipse of communism and generating prosperity in which all mankind might share."

Among the hardest-hit victims so far are the infant democracies of Eastern Europe who face a grim winter as they struggle to reorientate their socialist economies to the marketplace.

They have been dependent for decades on cheap Soviet oil and made little effort to develop alternative energy supplies or curb consumption, which was double that of Western Europe.

Earlier this year, Moscow cut back on its oil deliveries because of declining production and its own economic woes. Now Romania, Poland and the rest of East-

ern Europe, with little hard currency to pay for increasingly expensive oil, are in deep trouble.

The United Nations economic embargo on Iraq that is squeezing Baghdad is also causing hardship to many countries as well as costing billions of dollars in lost trade.

Iraq owed around \$35 billion to the Soviet Union, France, Italy and others. It was repaying some with oil. Now that flow has been cut and economists and government officials say the debts are a writeoff.

Impoverished Asian countries like India, the Philippines, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, as well as Arab states, have lost billions of dollars in remittances from some 2-3 million of their nationals working in Kuwait.

The cost of airlifting home the hundreds of thousands who have fled Kuwait and Iraq has further drained their treasuries.

Few of these countries, deep in the red, will be able to cope with rising oil prices without substantial aid.

The World Bank, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the European Community (EC) and other organisations have rallied to help cushion the economic hardships caused by the crisis.

U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar reported that 11 countries have asked for help: Bulgaria, India, Jordan, Lebanon, the Philippines, Romania, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tunisia, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Japan has pledged \$2 billion to help Egypt, Jordan and Turkey bear the brunt of the embargo. South Korea says it will donate 30,000 tonnes of rice worth \$10 million to these countries and extend long-term, low-interest loans of \$40 million. The EC has pledged another \$2 billion.

IMF and World Bank officials have said more money will be available from oil producers who are reaping hefty benefits from high oil prices.

Among the countries hit most by the crisis are:

Turkey: As one of the so-called frontline states, it will lose an estimated \$7 billion because of higher oil prices and reduced exports and tourism by the end of next year. Ankara got 60 per cent of its oil from neighbouring Iraq before the crisis and earned \$300 million a year from Iraq in oil pipeline fees.

Officials believe that the economy is strong enough to withstand the shock of the crisis, even without aid. But central bank governor Resud Saracoglu noted: "This crisis will set a precedent as to how the West acts toward its allies."

India: Muchkund Dubey, a senior foreign ministry official in New Delhi, said India will lose \$3.5 billion this year. That includes \$1 billion on evacuating its nationals from Iraq and Kuwait. Half the 185,000 Indians in the two countries have been repatriated so far in what is described in New Delhi as the biggest airlift since World War II.

The cost of oil imports, 40 per cent of which came from Iraq and Kuwait, will rise by \$1.5 billion to \$6 billion a year. That will drive the balance of payments deficit to a critical \$5.5 billion. Fuel prices were hiked by 20 per cent shortly before the crisis broke, and another is expected. As the effects of the crisis are felt, political analysts are predicting trouble for Prime Minister V.P. Singh's unstable government.

The Philippines: Few statistics are yet available, but the Merrill Lynch Financial Services Company said in its monthly Asian commentary that the Philippines economy will likely be the hardest hit in the Far East. Manila imports all its oil and high prices mean a severe drain on its foreign currency reserves. Inflation is expected to increase by as much as five per cent to 16-18 per cent this year.

More than 15,000 of the estimated 93,000 Filipinos in Kuwait and Iraq have been repatriated and thousands more are expected.

Apart from the loss of remittances, the returning nationals will push up unemployment past the current eight per cent total.

Egypt: Officials expect Egypt can weather the crisis provided aid is forthcoming, although it has a \$50 billion debt. Prime Minister Atef Sedki has estimated losses at \$4.5 billion, including \$2.4 billion in remittances from the million-plus Egyptians who worked in Kuwait and Iraq.

That total does not count \$10-12 billion Egyptians lost in Kuwait banks or writing off \$446 million owed by Iraq.

However, Egypt will earn an extra \$1 billion this fiscal year from oil exports. U.S. President George Bush has asked Congress to write off Egypt's \$6.7 billion foreign debt.

Brazil: Soaring oil prices mean its import bill could double to \$6 billion a year. That will make it harder to pay off Brazil's \$117 billion debt. Fuel price increases will push up the cost of living and there is already speculation of rationing, which would slow down the economy.

Brazil was Iraq's closest ally in South America, but economic and military links have been sharply reduced. Brazil has not sold weapons to Iraq since 1988 because of debts on previous arms sales unofficially estimated at \$3 billion.

Romania: Officials estimate the crisis will cost \$3 billion including writing off Iraq's \$1.7 billion debt. Baghdad was to repay 70 per cent of that in cheap oil. Now Romania, its Soviet supplies curtailed, will have to pay out an estimated \$770 million.

Officials estimated that contracts with Iraq worth \$1.2 billion have been lost.

Czechoslovakia: Officials said it will not be able to cope if oil prices hit \$65 a barrel. "If that happens, we'd have to give up on economic reforms. I guess we wouldn't be the only ones," a finance ministry official in Prague said.

## Kaifu pledges \$300m in aid for Turkey

ANKARA (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu pledged \$300 million in emergency aid to Turkey Thursday, the last slice of Tokyo's package for "frontline" states hard hit by the economic blockade of Iraq.

The pledge came in Kaifu's talks with Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut, a spokesman for Kaifu said.

Kaifu arrived in Ankara on the third leg of his five-nation Middle East tour.

Japan also extended \$500 million to Turkey in the form of untied trade insurance outside the framework of the emergency aid, the spokesman, a senior foreign ministry official, said.

Trade insurance, used to indirectly support Turkish firms, is not part of Japan's official development assistance or government aid.

"We have seen clouds but no rain" Akbulut was quoted as telling Kaifu, referring to the lack of actual funds for Turkey despite promises from Western countries.

## Gorbachev makes pricing more flexible

MOSCOW (AP) — President Mikhail Gorbachev moved to boost the output of Soviet businesses Thursday by allowing them — with certain restrictions — to negotiate their own wholesale prices.

A presidential decree on prices, released by the TASS news agency, was billed as a step toward a market economy. It was Gorbachev's second decree since the Soviet legislature gave him sweeping new powers to rescue the collapsing Soviet economy and maintain law and order.

Economists have said freeing prices to respond to market forces, rather than having them set by the government, is essential to curing the Soviet economy. It is not clear, however, whether the decree frees prices enough to make a difference.

The decree says businesses can sign contracts with each other for 1991 using negotiated wholesale prices. But it then adds three restrictions. It says the prices must be based on those outlined by the council of ministers in June 1988, that profits over a state-set limit will be taxed and that wholesale prices of some goods will remain fixed.

A correspondent for the night-TV newscast "Vremya" said the decree should put more goods into the stores by offering price incentives for increased production. Shortages have left many stores nationwide bare of such essential goods as flour, matches, cheese and bread.

Pavlov insisted the decree has no direct relation to retail prices and assured viewers that state subsidies will continue.

## Japan current account surplus posts decline

TOKYO (R) — Japan's current account surplus plunged in August, the government announced Friday, and economists said it could disappear in coming months.

"This decline is part of a trend that could continue as the impact of climbing oil prices begins to hurt the economies of Japan's trading partners," said Chiharu Sumita, economist at UBS Phillips and Drew International.

The surplus in the current account, the broadest measure of trade in goods and services, narrowed to \$942 million in August from \$3.43 billion a year earlier. The surplus was \$2.02 billion in July.

Japan's merchandise trade surplus fell to \$4.12 billion in August from \$4.87 billion a year earlier. In July, it was \$5.42 billion.

Exports rose an unimpressive 2.1 per cent from a year earlier to \$21.89 billion in August.

Economists blamed weaker demand for Japanese goods in the United States, where consumer spending is faltering.

Imports into Japan rose to \$17.77 billion from \$16.58 billion a year earlier.

Economists noted a wider deficit in "invisible" trade, which includes activities such as interest payments and overseas travel. The deficit in that account climbed to \$2.91 billion from a \$1.15 billion gap a year ago.

Peter Morgan, chief economist at Barclays de Zoete Wedd, said reduced income from Japanese investments abroad had contributed to the wider deficit in the invisibles account.

## EC unveils new plan to cut farm subsidies

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The European Community (EC) said Thursday it would be willing to trim costly export subsidies for farmers but refused to embrace the sharp cuts demanded by the United States.

The Community's executive body unveiled its latest agricultural position in international trade talks that have been stalled by a bitter dispute between the 12-nation trading bloc and the United States over farm payments.

Ray MacSharry, the Community's top agriculture official, said the proposal "strikes a careful balance between the needs" of European farmers and the desire to have a successful conclusion to the Uruguay Round of trade talks, according to a statement.

The four-year negotiations, which are scheduled to end in Brussels in December, are aimed at overhauling the world trading system. They are designed to reduce barriers to trade in 15 areas, including agriculture, textiles and other manufactured goods and services such as banking and investment.

The United States has said that resolving the farm issue is key to wrapping up the whole series of negotiations.

The Community's proposal calls for a 30 per cent cut in farm payments for such major products as cereals, rice, sugar and livestock over the period 1986 to 1996. A 10 per cent reduction is proposed for fruits, vegetables and tobacco.

In return for cuts in support for those products, it wants to raise protective measures for such commodities as oilseeds.

It does not propose specific cuts in its costly export subsidy programme, but it does hint that the Community is willing to negotiate reductions with its trading partners.

Trims in other subsidies, such as domestic payments to farmers, would result in lower export assistance, it said. The Community also will not give new export subsidies for commodities not now covered, it said.

Moreover, it said it is willing to translate these changes into a numerical level and then "reevaluate this quantification."

The statement, carefully and technically worded, appeared to be an attempt to signal the Community's willingness to bargain reductions in export subsidies, although not to the level the United States has been pushing for.

## Uncertainty in Gulf hits shipping business

MUSCAT (AP) — Nervous shippers plying the Gulf are demanding cash downpayments before sailing into the military danger zone, shipping agents say.

Foodstuffs and other commodities are coming in as usual, but imported luxury items, particularly furniture, have not been moving since the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait two months ago, one agent said.

"Shippers want instant cash because they are naturally frightened about the prospect of impending war and are greatly concerned about fluctuating exchange rates," a spokesman for Muttrah Shipping Agency said.

"They feel anything could happen with all this uncertainty. The atmosphere is really very bleak. Exporters are all saying

they need immediate cash," he said. "The ups and downs in this business are felt very fast because the Gulf imports virtually everything from abroad."

Six international shipping lines constituting Oman's Joint Container Service (JCS) are to raise general rates from Nov. 1 to an extra \$100 per fee (20-foot-equivalent) and \$200 per fee (40-foot-equivalent) on full container loads, and \$5 per freight ton on partly full containers, shipping executives said.

The member lines concerned are Cunard Ellemann London, Hapag-Lloyd Hamburg, Navale et Commerciale Havraise Peninsulaire, Nedlloyd Lijnen Rotterdam, P and Ocl London and United Arab Shipping (S.A.G.) London.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES					
Thursday, October 4, 1990 Central Bank official rates					
	Buy	Sell			
U.S. dollar	653.0	657.0	French franc	126.5	127.3
Pound Sterling	1241.9	1249.4	Japanese yen (for 100)	481.7	483.6
Deutschemark	424.0	426.5	Dutch guilder	376.0	378.3
Swiss franc	509.0	512.1	Swedish crown	114.5	115.2
			Italian lira (for 100)	56.7	57.0
			Belgian franc (for 10)	205.7	206.9

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES					
LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.					
One Sterling	1.9125/35	U.S. dollar			
One U.S. dollar	1.5485/95	Canadian dollar			
	1.5360/70	Deutschemark			
	1.7335/45	Dutch guilders			
	1.2830/40	Swiss francs			
	31.61/66	Belgian francs			
	5.1470/1520	French francs			
	115.00/151	Italian lire			
	133.00/10	Japanese yen			
	5.6720/70	Swedish crowns			
	5.9750/9800	Norwegian crowns			
	5.8600/50	Danish crowns			
One ounce of gold	393.40/90	U.S. dollars			

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Cinema **PHILADELPHIA** Tel: 634144

POLICE ACADEMY "6"

Performances: 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema **NIJOM** Tel: 675571

Ilham Shahin, Hisham Abdul Hamid in

AL MULK LILLAH (Arabic)

Performances: 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m. Friday & Sunday extra show at 11:00 a.m.

Cinema **PLAZA** Tel: 699238

Mahmoud Abdul Aziz - Maali Zayed in

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## France, Belgium and Zaire send troops to rebel-hit Rwanda

PARIS (R) — France, Belgium and Zaire sent troops to the central African state of Rwanda Friday after rebels brought fighting to the capital, Kigali.

A company of 150 French troops landed in Kigali Thursday night and seized control of the airport and the French embassy. Officials in Paris said those guarding the embassy opened fire at one stage. The foreign ministry said a further 150 French troops were on their way to Kigali.

Belgium has meanwhile sent about 600 paratroopers to its former African colony and French reporter Gerard Bardin, speaking by telephone from Kigali to French radio, said Zairean troops arrived aboard transport aircraft Friday.

Fighting broke out near the presidential palace before dawn Friday following a rebel invasion from Uganda six days ago, but Bardin said the city had been calm since daybreak.

"It's calm now. There are quite a few Transall and Hercules (transport planes) flying around,

which have brought in French, Belgians and Zaireans just now," Bardin said.

The French journalist said French foreign legionnaires arrived in Kigali Thursday evening from Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic, and took control of the airport. About 150 more legionnaires were due to arrive Friday from Chad, he said.

France maintains a permanent troops presence in both countries.

French Foreign Ministry spokesman Daniel Bernard denied radio reports that Paris had ordered the evacuation of its 700 citizens in Rwanda, but he said it was advising people not to travel there.

Preparations were being made for the voluntary departure of any French citizens in the country who wanted to leave, he added.

Although no official evacuation order has been given, Bardin said embassies in Kigali were arranging to send 270 women and

children to Paris on an Air France plane which was expected to arrive in Kigali Friday night.

In Uganda, an army spokesman reported that Rwandan army helicopters were bombing the Ugandan border to dissuade more Rwanda exiles in Uganda from joining the rebel forces.

The rebels, who invaded Rwanda from Uganda last Sunday, are led by Fred Rwigyema, a Rwandan refugee who rose to become a major general in the Ugandan army.

Sources close to the Ugandan government said earlier this week that about 200 Ugandan soldiers of Rwandan descent had deserted to join him in the uprising.

The Ugandan army spokesman said two of the Rwandan helicopters had violated Ugandan airspace and Kampala would lodge a diplomatic protest.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Paris said the French forces in Rwanda would work in close cooperation with the Belgian troops that have been dis-

patched to the small densely populated country.

Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana has requested military aid from both France and Belgium to quell the uprising.

But Paris and Brussels said Thursday they were sending troops to protect their nationals and interests in the country. The French had also deployed at a French school and the embassy, as well as the airport.

State radio in Rwanda ordered people to stay at home Friday and outlawed meetings of more than two people.

Bardin said there had been deaths in Kigali during fighting overnight but it was impossible to tell how many.

Most of the invading force are from Rwanda's minority but once dominant Tutsi tribe.

Thousands of Tutsis fled to neighbouring Uganda, Burundi and Zaire after they were ousted from power by a bloody rebellion of the country's majority Hutu tribe in 1959, three years before independence.

## Havel, Gorbachev candidates for Nobel Prize

STOCKHOLM (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and Czechoslovakian President Václav Havel, both symbols of political reform in Eastern Europe, are tipped as candidates for the 1990 Nobel Peace Prize to be announced this month.

African National Congress Deputy President Nelson Mandela and Chai Ling, a student activist in China's pro-democracy movement last year, could also be in the running for the four million Swedish crown (\$700,000) prize, commentators said.

The 1990 Nobel season starts Monday when Sweden's Karolinska Institute announces the winner of the medicine prize, one of five awards made annually under the will of Swedish philanthropist Alfred Nobel.

The peace prize will be announced in Oslo on Oct. 15, followed by physics and chemistry in Stockholm on Oct. 17 and literature at a date to be fixed. The Bank of Sweden, which in 1968 endowed a sixth Nobel prize for economics, will publish its choice on Oct. 16.

Geir Lundestad, secretary to the Norwegian Nobel Committee which awards the peace prize, said the five-member panel had received about 100 nominations this year, including 26 organisations.

Lundestad gave no names, but Scandinavian Nobel watchers have speculated that Gorbachev, Havel, Mandela and Chai are high on the list.

Sweden's TT news agency said its basic hunch was that "some central figure in the momentous upheaval in Eastern Europe" would take the prize, naming Gorbachev and Havel as favourites.

The Norwegian agency NTB said its front-runners were Havel and Mandela, followed by Gorbachev and Chai.

Student leader Chai was proposed after she described the Chinese crackdown on the student-led democracy movement on June 4 last year in a tape smuggled out of China.

However, according to a Nobel source in Oslo, her chances could be jeopardised by the fact that the Dalai Lama won the peace prize last year. China denounced the committee's choice of the Dalai Lama, who opposes Chinese rule in Tibet.

Nobel, the Swedish inventor of dynamite, died in 1896. In his will he instructed that the interest of his fortune be distributed annually to reward "those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind."

All Nobel Committees keep their lists secret, but nominating individuals and organisations for the peace prize have often made known their choices.

According to Nobel sources in Oslo, U.S. President George Bush, Pope John Paul II, German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Alexander Dubcek, leader of Czechoslovakia's abortive 1968 reforms, are among the 1990 peace prize nominees.

Only 16 of the Swedish Academy's 18 members are taking part in this year's literature prize selection after a row last year.

## Soviet plane hijacker surrenders in Helsinki

HELSINKI (AP) — A hijacked Soviet domestic airliner landed at Helsinki's international airport Friday and an unarmed hijacker surrendered to police after brief negotiations, a police official said.

The Soviet News Agency, TASS, said the man had threatened to blow up the plane.

"The hijacker wanted to go to Stockholm, (Sweden), but he was told there was not enough fuel... he is currently being interrogated by police," said Chief Inspector Pertti Birolainen.

The 41-year-old man applied for political asylum, Birolainen told reporters.

The hijacked Aeroflot Yak-40 aircraft carried 22 passengers and a crew of four, Finnish authorities said. The 28-seat jet was on an internal flight northwest of Moscow when the man forced it to change course.

The hijacker was not identified.

Earlier this year, five domestic planes were hijacked to Finland and to Sweden by young men who said they were political dissidents or fugitives from the Soviet army.

Swedish and Finnish officials extradited four of them. One was given political asylum in Sweden. The Leningrad Air Traffic Control Centre informed the Finnish authorities about the hijacked plane 25 minutes before it landed at the Helsinki airport at 10:20 (0820 GMT).

The aircraft was on its way from Novgorod, 500 kilometres northwest of Moscow, to Leningrad and Petrozavodsk. It was hijacked before it reached Leningrad.

It was the third hijacked plane from the Soviet Union to land in Finland this year.

## Germany rescues election plan

BONN (Agencies) — Two days after the birth of new Germany, parliament Friday rescued plans for nationwide elections on Dec. 2 by passing a new balloting law during its first session in Bonn.

The parliament also ratified an international treaty restoring the nation's full sovereignty that was signed last month with the World War II victors.

The new election law was approved by a broad majority of government and opposition lawmakers by a show of hands.

The legislation replaces an election treaty that was rejected by the supreme court.

It was the most crowded session ever at the Bundestag, Germany's parliament, housed in a building that once served as Bonn's waterworks.

"I warmly welcome you to the waterworks," Parliamentary President Rita Suessmuth joked, as she opened the session by welcoming new members from now-dissolved East Germany.

A total of 144 former East German lawmakers took their seats alongside 519 West German legislators who used to convene

by themselves before unity Oct. 3.

The ex-East German legislators include 24 from the former Communist Party, which now calls itself the Party for Democratic Socialism (PDS).

It was the first time members of the former Communist Party of East Germany took part in a session at Germany's parliamentary seat in Bonn.

In contrast to Thursday's inaugural session in the Berlin Reichstag, complete with symbols like a moment of silence for the victims of Nazism and Stalinism, the deputies squabbled over details of Germany's military status and election system.

They also began debating a new draft budget — Bonn's third this year — that more than triples the budget deficit to grapple with the rocketing costs of unification.

An overwhelming majority voted for the "two-plus-four" treaty, making Germany the first signatory to approve the agreement restoring the full sovereignty lost when Hitler's Third Reich was defeated in 1945.

## De Klerk pays surprise visit to Natal townships

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — President F.W. De Klerk received warm cheers Thursday on an unannounced visit to black townships in Natal province wracked by years of faction fighting.

He praised local leaders of the warring factions for negotiating a Shongweni township truce that halted the fighting, which has claimed 5,000 lives in Natal in five years.

Such a trip would have been unthinkable a year ago, before De Klerk pushed for an end to apartheid and freed African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela from prison.

The white-led government and the ANC have held peace talks since May on eliminating apartheid.

The black faction fighting spread to Johannesburg area townships in August, killing some 800 people. It has eased in the past two weeks, but strained relations between the government

and the ANC.

Most of the fighting has pitted Zulu supporters of the conservative Inkatha Movement against Xhosa and other blacks linked to the ANC.

It was the second time in a month De Klerk has ventured into black townships, an extremely rare act by a South African leader.

He also drew a warm reception on his visit last month to the Soweto township southwest of Johannesburg.

Residents of Shongweni and the Imbali township cheered and sang Thursday when De Klerk appeared, accompanied by his wife and other government leaders.

Tight security was evident, with yellow police helicopters circling the presidential party's helicopter.

De Klerk presented Bibles to Victor Khaba of Inkatha and Tlulani Zulu of the United Democratic Front, an ANC affiliate.

## Manila poised to drive out rebels

CAGAYAN DE ORO, Philippines (R) — Philippine forces attacked troops who joined a day-old rebellion on the southern island of Mindanao Friday, driving them from one army camp and threatening to crush an insurrection in two other cities.

The rebels, led by a former deputy head of President Corazon Aquino's palace guard, Colonel Alexander Noble, launched a rebellion Thursday in the latest of many challenges to Aquino's four-year-old rule.

Air force planes blasted Butuan's Bancasi Camp forcing rebel forces to flee into the city, witnesses said.

Two World War II-vintage T-28s, or "Tora-Toras", struck 11 times at the army brigades headquarters, destroying a building.

But rebels still held a key road to the rebel-controlled northern Mindanao town of 157,000 inhabitants.

The rebels said this would be the

route for government forces in any attempt to recapture the town, journalists at the scene said.

A military spokesman said the attack cut communications between Butuan and the northern Mindanao town of Cagayan de Oro, where Noble had his headquarters.

Noble told reporters he wanted to set up an independent Mindanao state.

But military officials said they thought the rebellion was part of a plot to destabilise Aquino's government and draw troops away from the capital, Manila.

Aquino has survived six coup attempts since coming to power in 1986, the most serious last December.

Congress Speaker Ramon Mitra said the government "must take the strongest possible measures to ensure that this becomes the last challenge... to its constitutional authority, no matter

what the cost."

Chief of Staff General Renato de Villa told a news conference the government was poised to crush the rebellion and the military had reinforced its defence of the capital.

"For all intents and purposes, the secessionist rebellion... is finished," he said.

"What remains to be done is to simply recover the camps," he added.

Brigadier General Antonio Nale told reporters in Iligan, northern Mindanao, "we are going to conduct military operations. This problem cannot be settled by a dialogue. We have to apply pressure on the rebels to surrender."

Nale was given temporary command of the Fourth Infantry Division after the previous commander, Brigadier General Miguel Sol, disappeared during the insurrection. His whereabouts are unknown.

## Trinidad blames U.S. for failing to inform about arms purchases

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago said Thursday that U.S. authorities failed to tell his government of arms purchases in Miami by Muslim subversives, who later launched an abortive coup against him.

"If we had the information possessed by U.S. authorities in Miami (Florida), this coup would have been avoided," Prime Minister Arthur N.R. Robinson told a news conference.

Later, a U.S. State Department official, requesting anonymity, said, "we did not withhold information which would have enabled Prime Minister Robinson to prevent the coup d'etat."

In answer to a question, Robinson said his government has evidence that the rebels had ties to Libya.

"In fact, the leader of the organisation has confessed openly about his visits and relations with Libya," he said.

He declined to say, however, whether the coup was backed by Libya, saying the case currently was in the courts.

On July 27, Muslim militants stormed parliament and the government run TV station and took the prime minister and more than 50 others hostage. The ensuing six-day siege and accompanying looting left 24 people dead and 500 wounded. Trinidad is a Caribbean island nation of 1.2 million people off the coast of Venezuela. The fighting caused an estimated \$60 million damage.

Rebel leader Yasin Abu Bakr, a former policeman who converted to Islam, and 113 followers were jailed to face charges of treason and murder after the coup was suppressed. Saying it fearing that Bakr's supporters might be plotting another attack, the government extended a state of emergency until mid-November.

## 2 Colombian rebel groups unite

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — The two biggest leftist guerrilla groups in Colombia reportedly have combined forces under the joint command of a defrocked priest and a headline Communist nicknamed Sure Shot.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the government of President Cesar Gaviria said rebel attacks "are spreading like oil slick."

The Bogota daily El Tiempo reported Thursday that the two groups are the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces, known as the FARC, and the National Liberation Army, known as the ELN.

El Tiempo gave no source for its information. The newspaper has good sources in the army and other government security agencies.

The FARC and the ELN had said in recent communiques that their leaders were considering joining forces.

The combined strength of the two rebel armies would be about 8,000 combatants, El Tiempo said.

Colombian army intelligence sources have said in the past that the two guerrilla groups also count on an estimated 10,000 peasants who have weapons and

are called on to fight in attacks on towns.

The FARC and ELN have become very active in northern and northeastern Colombia, a cabinet minister in charge of internal security told Congress earlier this week, El Tiempo said.

"The guerrillas are spreading in this zone like an oil slick, and if we don't do something quickly to contain them we could find some painful surprises in the future," Minister of Government Julio Sanchez reportedly told the congressmen Tuesday. Sanchez could not be reached directly for comment.

## Army takes over Slovenia territorial headquarters

BELGRADE (R) — The Yugoslav army has taken over territorial defence headquarters in the northwestern Republic of Slovenia, Slovenian officials said Friday.

The move follows a heated dispute over the control of territorial defence units on Slovenian soil.

Slovenia's parliament last week amended the republic's constitution to put territorial defence under the republic's control.

The army said the move was illegal and a threat to Yugoslavia's constitutional order.

Slovenian Information Ministry official Andrea Furlan told Reuters the army moved into the territorial defence offices Thursday night and cut off all communications. She said it was evicting civilians working there. No arrests had been made, but

angry protesters were gathering outside the building, she said.

Slovenia and neighbouring Croatia, both of which have ousted Communists from power this year in their first free elections since World War II, have threatened to break away from Yugoslavia if it does not change into a loose confederation.

The Yugoslav Defence Ministry said this week it would not allow the creation of a parallel army and that the military would take over the territorial defence. It did not spell out immediately what it would do.

The Slovenian parliament Thursday annulled 30 federal laws, saying this was an important step towards establishing sovereignty "and the gradual exclusion of Slovenia from Yugoslavia's legal system," Tanjug news agency reported.

## Tropical storm hits Caribbean

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Tropical storm Klaus bore down on the eastern Caribbean after spawning severe flooding on the French island of Martinique, where two people were reported dead and four missing.

The National Hurricane Centre in Miami said Klaus, the 11th named storm of the Atlantic hurricane season, was packing sustained winds of 60 MPH (96 KPH) and threatened to develop into a hurricane by Friday.

Hurricane warnings were issued for the popular tourist islands of the Leewards chain along an arc from the French and Dutch island of St. Martin-St. Maarten in the north to the tiny British colony of Montserrat in the south. Tropical storm warnings remained in effect for Martinique and its sister island of Guadeloupe.

"The storm has been showing signs of getting stronger, and we're forecasting the possibility of it becoming a hurricane within the next 24 hours," forecaster Miles Lawrence said.

Tropical storms are upgraded to hurricanes when their maximum sustained winds reach 74 MPH (119 KPH).

Among the missing in Martinique were two sisters, aged eight and 14, who were swept from a flooded bridge Wednesday in St. Joseph in the centre of the island. Rescuers were searching for the girls Thursday.

The bodies of two men were found late Wednesday. Authorities said one of the victims was a 56-year-old farmer, who fell from a tractor into a flooded ditch. Circumstances of the second man's death were unclear, but it was believed he also drowned in floodwaters that reached nearly 10 feet in places.

## Collor's allies headed to victories in Brazil elections

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) — Early returns showed conservative allies of President Fernando Collor de Mello heading to important victories Friday in key congressional and gubernatorial elections.

Scattered returns Thursday, a day after the balloting, confirmed exit polls pointing to first-round victories by right-wing candidates in 14 states.

Elections covered all 26 states and the federal district of Brasilia, all of which elect governors, senators and federal representatives.

Leftist critics of the government were considered sure winners in just two states. Eleven races appeared headed to a Nov. 25 runoff as no candidate was likely to receive the absolute majority required for outright victory.

Also at stake were 31 seats in the 81-member Senate and all 503 seats in the Lower Congress, where no majority was needed.

Projections based on early returns showed pro-government forces would tighten their control of both houses.

Sydney Sanchez, president of the Superior Electoral Court, said an official vote count for governor and the Senate would be completed by Sunday and full

totals in federal representatives' races would take up to two weeks.

The balloting was the first since Collor became Brazil's first democratically elected president in 29 years after a vote in December.

Brazilians are widely split on his performance and Collor made almost no endorsements during the three-month long campaign. But the results seemed sure to greatly strengthen his government.

"The Brazilian population is perfectly in accord with the desire for change," the president said after voting in his hometown of Maceio on the northeastern Atlantic Coast. "The National Congress is going to reflect the support for the federal government."

Public opinion surveys show Brazilians are almost evenly divided on Collor's harsh economic austerity policies, which included an 18-month bank freeze on some \$115 billion in personal and corporate bank accounts, large-scale firings of public employees and a tight credit squeeze.

The measures, designed to rope in 5,000 per cent annual inflation, have lowered the cost-of-living but have also cost the jobs of hundreds of thousands of workers and dropped industrial

output to its lowest level in a decade.

However, the left's failure to turn economic grumbling into political support and the triumph of mostly conservative candidates came as a big boost to the government.

Collor's own National Reconstruction Party looked only to have won gubernatorial victories in Alagoas and Maranhao, two small northern states. Early returns showed the party's candidates were also possible runoff entries in the major states of Parana and Minas Gerais.

But a number of other pro-government parties were ahead in the lion's shares of the gubernatorial races.

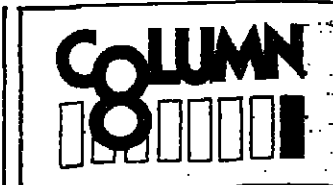
The biggest winner was the rightist Liberal Front Party, which appeared headed to victory in five states, including the two major northeastern states of Bahia and Pernambuco. The party also looked like a winner in at least another three states.

With 11 per cent of the ballots counted in Sao Paulo, the country's largest electoral prize with 19 million voters, far-rightist Paulo Maluf had 35 per cent of the votes versus 24 per cent for centrist Luis Antonio Fleury, a Collor critic.

Wednesday's balloting marked the collapse of the centrist Brazilian Democratic Movement Party, which led the opposition to the 1964 to 1985 military regime. After sweeping all but one governorship in 1986, the party won just one first-round victory and possible berths in three runoffs.

In the Senate, early returns showed leftist candidates winning easily in Rio de Janeiro and northern Ceara state, while Workers Party candidate Eduardo Suplicy was clinging to a small lead in Sao Paulo.

Rightist candidates were ahead in the rest, though at least one was not friendly to the government. Former President Jose Sarney, a bitter personal enemy of Collor's, was far ahead in the new northern state of Amapa.



## World to mark Lennon's 50th birthday

NEW YORK (AP) — A global celebration is planned for John Lennon's 50th birthday next week, with the slain rock star's peace anthem Imagine played simultaneously in 130 countries for a potential audience of 1 billion. Lennon, who was gunned down outside his Manhattan apartment house in December 1980, would have reached the half-century mark on Oct. 9. The occasion will be marked by a live worldwide broadcast from the United Nations. "This idea appealed to me, because not only will we cover the whole world, but also there's something that's very small," said Yoko Ono, who will speak briefly before the song is played. "It's not a pandemic. And I thought that was in John's spirit in a way — we didn't believe in pandemicism. We believed in just as honest kind of communication." The event will last about 10 minutes, and will include a short introduction by Marcela Perez de Cuellar, wife of the U.N. secretary-general. A taped message from Lennon will then air before Imagine is played. As of Thursday, more than 1,000 radio stations and networks from 50 countries had signed on for the satellite broadcast. U.S. armed forces television and radio will hit at least 80 other countries. The event also will be televised by MTV in 25 countries, said Andrea Smith of the network.

## Charity dinner with Diana attracts the rich

WASHINGTON (AP) — Dinner with Princess Diana proved an irresistible prospect to hundreds of wealthy capital dwellers who paid thousands of dollars to be in the same room with her at a charity gala. "A royal evening in the presence of Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales" was organised to benefit London City Ballet, the Washington Ballet and Grandma's House. Washington home for babies with AIDS. The British-American Arts Association also will receive some money. Joanna Seymour, media manager for London City Ballet, said the ballet companies and Grandma's House each would receive at least \$100,000, and probably more from the gala. The Arts Association was expected to net more than \$20,000. "This is a serious fund-raiser," she said. "It's not a butterfly event for socialites." One of the items on the auction block was a diamond-and-pearl necklace set in 18-carat white gold. The auctioneer was John Marion, chairman of Sotheby's New York. Diana, on her second solo trip to the United States and her first outside Britain this year, arrived Thursday afternoon and had tea at the British ambassador's residence before the gala began. Diana and her husband, Prince Charles, last visited Washington in 1985.

## Sutherland makes last performance

SYDNEY (AP) — The final curtain came down on Dame Joan Sutherland, ending a brilliant opera career that spanned nearly four decades. Ms. Sutherland, the 63-year-old soprano known as "la stupenda," or the "magnificent one," chose to make her last performance in her hometown, appearing as Marguerite de Valois in Giacomo Meyerbeer's Les Huguenots. Tickets for the performance ranged up to 500 dollars (\$415). More than 400 mixed-blood and fur-bedecked patrons also attended a post-performance dinner that carried the same price tag. The enthusiastic crowd, including Prime Minister Bob Hawke and treasurer Paul Keating, chatted excitedly about "a once-in-a-lifetime" even as they lingered around the Opera House afterward. The curtain calls and final accolades lasted nearly 45 minutes and included fireworks inside the shell-like Opera House complex.

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